THE TIMES

No 62,327 SATURDAY DECEMBER 21 1985 25p

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Jordan

Portfolio

£22,000 to be won

There is £22,000 to be won in *The Times* Portfolio competition today – £20,000 in the weekly competition and £2,000 in the daily

Four winners shared yesterday's £2,000 prize. Mr L C. Smith of Thetford, Norfolk; Mrs P. F. Moran of Huddersfield; Mrs L V. Jerden of Cheam, Surrey; and Mrs P. Harris of Coventry, each receive £500. Portfolio list, page 20; weekly list Information Service, back page

£679,264 damages for woman

A young wife whose life was ruined after a routine operation went wrong was awarded record damages of £679,264 in Cardiff High Court. Mrs Linda Thomas, now aged 27, will require specialist care for the rest of her life Page 23

Officers held in Nigeria swoop

Nigeria's military government has arrested a number of army officers. It said they were campaigning against its policies but denied an earlier statement that there had been a coup attempt **Plotters foiled, page 7**

Television truce

ITV electricians are to end their two-week-old work-to-rule today and replace it with an overtime ban. All industrial action will be lifted for the Christmas and New Year period.

Kennedy out

Senator Edward Kennedy has announced that he will not seek the Democratic presidential nomination in 1988, effectively ending his ambition for the White House **Back page**

Leading article, page 9

Clean Big Ben

Big Ben's covering of plastic sheeting and scaffolding has been removed after more than two years, revealing renovation work on the clock tower costing £1.7 million. Page 2

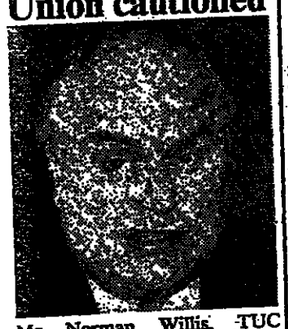
Waite's plea

Mr Terry Waite, the Archbishop of Canterbury's special envoy, in Beirut called on Lebanese kidnappers to release all their hostages at Christmas Page 7

Barbie delay

The trial of Nazi war criminal Klaus Barbie, due in February, will be delayed after France's highest appeal court ruled that he could face more charges.

Union cautioned



Mr Norman Willis, TUC general secretary, has warned the electricians' union against signing a single-union agreement with News International over the proposed *London Post* Page 2

£259m surplus

Britain had a current account surplus of £259 million last month, in line with forecasts. But gross domestic product declined slightly in the third quarter. Page 21

Levy warning

The Government has accused trade union leaders of evading their responsibility to tell members of their rights not to pay a political levy Page 2

Drugs clamp

Drugs traffickers face being stripped of their assets under a new Bill which also makes laundering of drugs cash punishable by lengthy jail terms Page 4

Flying start

Mats Wilander defeated Michael Westphal in straight sets to give Sweden a 1-0 lead over West Germany in the Davis Cup tennis final in Munich Page 26

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Rival bid for Westland 'vindicates Heseltine'

By Philip Webster and Judith Huntley

Supporters of Mr Michael Heseltine's high-risk Cabinet battle over Westland helicopters claimed a victory last-night.

They said the Defence Secretary had been fully vindicated by the publication of proposals for a joint European rescue, led by GEC, Britains largest industrial company.

Mr Heseltine's supporters in Westminster said the terms of the offer were considerably more attractive than those already accepted by the Westland board from Sikorsky of the United States and Fiat of Italy.

A senior Conservative defence expert said: "It is game, set and match to the Europeans – and to Michael Hesletine.

"The offer means £1 million net for Westland and £1.2 million for the shareholders – and the banks will be £5 million better off as a result of it."

For the workforce, the rewards were said to be even greater. While the Sikorsky/Fiat offer was calculated to have entailed a net gain of 400,000 man hours over five years, the European bid would mean a gain of 1,200,000 man hours, it was said.

Mr Heseltine's backers naturally put the best possible interpretation on the European offer, put even his opponents admitted that Mr Heseltine's tenacious battle with Mr Leon Brittan, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, had borne fruit. They said there were now two, rather than one, firm rescue options to be considered.

Another of Mr Heseltine's supporters said: "There is no way now that the Westland board can recommend the Sikorsky bid. But Sikorsky may now, of course, come back with an increased offer."

Mr Heseltine made no public comment last night on the European offer.

The European consortium's £73.1 million rescue package for Westland was unveiled after the company had revealed pretax losses of £95.3 million.

The consortium, which originally comprised British Aerospace, Aerospatiale of France, Italy's Augusta and MBB of West Germany, now joined by GEC, said its package is better than its rivals £72.2 million reconstruction package in four main areas.

- It provides a better deal for shareholders, who would be asked to put up less money per share – 55p rather than 60p – and free warrants for extra shares.
- It would be a better deal for Westland's banks, Barclays and National Westminster, who would be asked for £23 million of support instead of £28 million.
- It would mean extra work for Westland itself in the shape of sub-contracting deals.
- The Westland rescue would be largely a British one, with British Aerospace and GEC putting up £13 million and the continental companies £8 million each.

The Europeans also argue that if Westland goes ahead with the Sikorsky/Fiat proposals, the company will lose out on engineering work for the Europeans. There was also an undefined matter for the Black Hawk military intercepter on which Westland is pinning its hopes in the Sirkorsky deal.

Exisiting shareholders would keep 63 per cent of the company under the European offer with the consortium having 21 per cent.

Sir John Cuckney, chairman of Westland, was not available for comment last night but Lazards, the merchant bank advising the company, said it would consider the European offer over the weekend.

Sir John has agreed that a better offer than the one previously received from the consortium would be put to shareholders before they vote on the Sirkorsky/Fiat offer on January 14.

The consortium's offer is conditional on each member being allowed to appoint a director to the Westland board with GEC and British Aerospace regarded as one member.

Leading article and letters, page 9

Hope fades for men on wrecked trawler

By Ronald Faux

Hopes faded last night of finding alive any of the six crew of the Scottish fishing vessel Bon Ami, as weather deteriorated along the coast south of Cape Wrath where the boat went aground.

The 47ft trawler was returning to the fishing port of Kinlochbervie, Sutherland, early yesterday morning when she struck rocks at the mouth of Loch Inchbard, only ten minutes from safety.

It is feared that a heavy swell with 26ft waves could have swept the vessel aground and prevented the crew launching their life raft.

A distress call was picked up and fishing boats and lifeboats from Kinlochbervie and Loch Inver went to help but were unable to get close to the Bon Ami because of the danger of being swept on to the rocks.

Three bodies were found later and at dusk rescuers were still searching for the remaining crewmen.

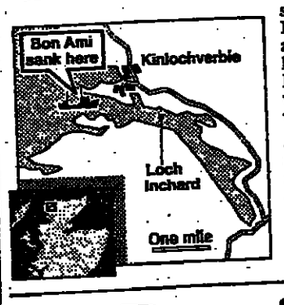
The accident leaves 14 children fatherless and five widows, and has plunged into mourning the neighbouring fishing communities of Whitehills and Banff. Mr Eric Mitchell, the skipper, Mr John Sim, Mr Matthew McFarlane and Mr Christopher Hunt, aged 16, all came from Whitehills, while Mr Derek Lovie and Mr Christopher McInnes are from Banff.

Mr Colin Mitchell, aged 16, the son of the Bon Ami skipper was reported to be on his father's second boat, the Bon Accord, and helped the rescue services in the search.

After dark, an RAF helicopter from Lossiemouth flew to Loch Inchard but the Bon Ami had sunk in deep water.

A coastguard at Stornoway said that the headland of Loch Inchard was very treacherous in an onshore wind but visibility had been reasonably good. Divers will try to reach the wreck in an attempt to discover why she went aground.

Yesterday Mr Albert McQuarrie, MP for Banff and Buchan, said that the tragedy highlighted again the need to look at safety at sea. His private members' Bill on the subject is to receive its second reading in Parliament in February.



Moment of terror at Nantes siege court



Georges Courtois firing towards journalists at Nantes as he left the court chained to M Dominique Bailhache, the judge.

Armed men surrender at airport

By Our Foreign Staff

Three armed men, who took more than 30 people hostage in a French court on Thursday, last night surrendered to police at Nantes airport.

The gunmen had earlier driven to the airport with their remaining four hostages and demanded to be flown out of the country with two of them, both judges.

After negotiations, the car carrying the hostages and the three gunmen, who were in handcuffs, pulled up outside the airport terminal and the two hostages went into a police command post.

Earlier, the leader of the gunmen, identified as Georges Courtois, aged 38, was the first to come out of the besieged courthouse, handcuffed to M Dominique Bailhache, aged 45, president of the Nantes assize court.

Courtois, armed with a magnum .357 handgun and a hand grenade, fired three shots in the general direction of a group of journalists massed about 100 yards from the building, sending them scurrying for cover. One of the bullets shattered the lens of a TV camera held by BBC cameraman Don Nesbitt, who was not hurt.

For a time Courtois and his prisoner stood outside the building, the gunman clutching a grenade in one hand and the revolver in the other as he demanded a getaway car.

Finally, all three gunmen and four hostages piled into one car and drove to the airport with a police escort.

Courtois and the other gunmen, Abdel Karim Khalki and Patrick Thiolet, surrendered unconditionally. The final hostages to be released were presiding Judge Dominique Bailhache and his first assessor M Bernard Bureau.

M Bureau, said the trio had been "very determined. I was extremely afraid". He added: "The most difficult moment was when he came out of the courthouse."

He said that "at the beginning it was a suicide operation for them" but after what happened yesterday afternoon he thought they "wanted to limit the price". M Bureau was struck on the head by one of the gunmen during the ordeal.

The court was on Thursday trying two of the gunmen on robbery charges when an armed accomplice, Khalki, burst in. They originally held 32 hostages, but released 28 of them unharmed in batches before leaving for the airport.

Nine die in Lesotho raid as Pretoria warns black states

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

The Pretoria Government last night warned its black-ruled neighbours of its "grave concern" at the continuing presence on their territory of "terrorist elements" hostile to South Africa despite repeated requests that they take steps to eliminate them.

The warning, the strongest for a long time, came on the same day as nine people, most of them thought to be South African refugees, were shot dead in the pre-dawn hours in two houses in Maseru, the Lesotho capital, by gunmen alleged by Lesotho to have come from South Africa.

It also coincided with a raid – reported by informed sources to have been in progress since last weekend – by South African troops into southern Angola in pursuit of guerrrillas of the South West Africa People's Organization (Swapo) who are fighting for the independence of Namibia.

Lesotho, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Mozambique, Botswana and Swaziland were cited by Pretoria as countries which had failed to curb "terrorist" activity, and which had to "be made to realize that if this menace is allowed to continue all the peoples of southern Africa will pay a heavy price".

The South African statement was issued after a meeting in Cape Town of the State Security Council, which brings together senior Cabinet ministers and military and intelligence chiefs under the chairmanship of President P. W. Botha. It said particular attention had been given to the recent landmine explosions along the border with Zimbabwe.

In a lunchtime broadcast, Lesotho radio alleged that the Maseru victims had been "brutally murdered by South African commandos using guns fitted with silencers".

[One survivor, Mr Richard Macaskill, said six people burst into the house where a party was underway and started firing pistols with silencers. He said the faces of the raiders were painted black. Their arms showing through short sleeves revealed white skin (Reuter reports from Maseru].

A spokesman for the South African Defence Force in Pretoria, Commandant John Rolt, said: "we catergorically deny these allegations. We were not involved". He was unable to suggest who else might have carried out the attack.

Lesotho's acting Foreign Minister, Mr David Makoae, said that in an exchange of diplomatic notes in the week before the killings Maseru had rejected an allegation by Pretoria that refugees in Lesotho belonging to the outlawed African National Congress (ANC) were planning guerrilla attacks on targets in South

Continued on back page, col 1

Rear seat belts in cars next year

By Our Political Reporter

All new cars will have to be fitted with rear seat belts from October 1 next year, but passengers will not be compelled to wear them

The Government announced the change yesterday in a move to check the increase in deaths and injuries among back-seat passengers.

In 1984, 368 rear-seat occupants were killed and 4,633 seriously injured, and there is evidence that the figure could have been considerably reduced had belts been worn.

The regulations, to make belts or child restraints a legal requirement for al cars manufactured from next October and first registered from April 1987, will also require a belt to be fitted in the centre front seat of cars and van.

Mrs Linda Chalker, Minister of State for Transport, making the announcement in a Commons written reply, said that she wanted car owners to be given the freedom to choose belts which best suited their needs, and that there were no plans to introduce compulsory wearing.

Next year, there will be a Commons debate on the three-year experiment of compulsory front seat belts.

Ferry prospects brighten as holiday rush starts

By Richard Dowden

Extra trains, buses and aircraft are being laid on for the Christmas period, expected to be one of the busiest ever for travel.

British Rail said it would run several extra services on Monday and Tuesday but that the system would wind down on Christmas eve with trains aiming to reach their destination by about 10 pm. There will be no trains on Christmas day or Boxing Day.

Sealink said they hoped to be able to absorb passengers who would have travelled by Townsend Thorensen, whose sailings have been halted by a strike.

Although there is hope of a settlement and a decision will be taken at a Monday morning meeting of the Dover branch of the National Union of Seaman, it is not expected that the 10 affected ferries will be operating over Christmas.

A threatened strike by 250 Sealink seamen on the Holyhead – Ireland service was called off yesterday after they were told that they would be given paid leave while the St Columba underwent a six-month refit in January and that the St Columba will continue to operate out of Holyhead.

The British Airports Authority said that between 90,000 and 100,000 people were expected to travel through Heathrow this weekend. Thousands of people are travelling to European ski resorts and others are flying to the Caribbean. An extra 51

Continued on back page, col 8

Downing Street meets Disneyland

By Philip Webster
Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister is to take a starring role with President Reagan in a Christmas spectacular being made by Walt Disney for showing all over the world.

Mrs Thatcher yesterday recorded a 30-second message of peace and good will for the Disney show, which will go out live on American and Canadian television on Christmas morning and be seen in over five million homes in Europe, including about 300,000 in Britain, served by the Sky Channel satellite station.

Mrs Thatcher, one of several world leaders taking part, immediately follows Mr Reagan, who gives the first Christmas message. In her appearance Mrs Thatcher wishes every one a happy time. She says: "The message is 'peace on earth' but it does not stop there. It goes on: 'Good will to all men'. That is the way we learn to live together better.

"Perhaps I may borrow a phrase from one of my fellow countrymen, Charles Dickens, who at the end of his famous book *A Christmas Carol* said: 'God bless us every one'."

Walt Disney World, in Florida, said last night: "We were absolutely thrilled to have got Mrs Thatcher to participate.

Mrs Thatcher's message is one of several she is sending over Christmas. She has already recorded one for the Falkland Islands, and there will be another for the hospital radio service.

The mood of Christmas cheer emanating from Downing Street, however, contrasted sharply with an attack on the Prime Minister last night by Mr Gerald Kaufman, the shadow Home Secretary, who accused her of having a "hard heart". For good measure he accused Mr Norman Tebbit, the Tory Party chairman, of having a "foul mouth".

Mr Kaufman, speaking to the Bishop Auckland Labour Party, said that Britain under Mrs Thatcher's premiership had become the land of Scrooge and swindle. Her strategy was to take from the poor and those on average incomes, while the "Tory cronies" in the City of London were getting away with fraud on a massive scale.

Meanwhile, Mrs Thatcher received some unsolicited advice from the Liberal MP, Mr Clement Freud. He said she should send Christmas cards to the four people who had most helped the Government maintain its position in the opinion polls: Arthur Scargill, Derek Hatton, Bernie Grant and General Galtieri.

Football wins TV deal but may lose Swansea

Football will return to English television screens in the new year. The Football League yesterday signed a £1.3m contract with BBC and ITV just as an electricians' strike blacked out some sports coverage this weekend.

The agreement, which ended 15 months of acrimony, allows for coverage of six live League matches and the later stages of the Milk Cup competition.

Swansea City, the third division club, are on the brink of extinction. A winding-up order was made in the High Court yesterday over unpaid tax bills of £146,000. Page 25

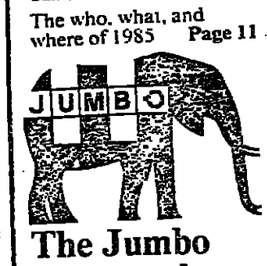
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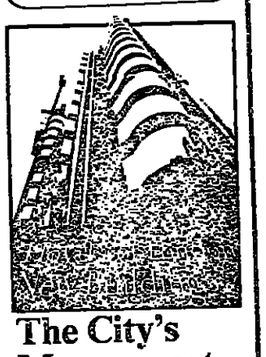
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The Jumbo crossword

Prize brainteaser for the holiday Page 14

MONDAY



The City's Meccano set

How Richard Rogers rehoused Lloyd's

CHRISTMAS EVE

Short story for Christmas

By Peter Ackroyd, award-winning novelist



Plum pud to Ulan Bator

How *The Times* brought cheer to Mongolia



Willis warns electricians against single-union deal on the London Post

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

A fresh rift in the labour movement loomed last night as Mr Norman Willis, Trades Union Congress general secretary, warned the electricians not to sign a single union agreement with News International for the planned new newspaper *The London Post*, to be launched in March.

Meanwhile, production unions in the company – Sogat '82 and the National Graphical Association – demanded a "jobs for life" guarantee for their members at *The Times, The Sunday Times, The Sun* and *News of the World*, as part of a pay and conditions claim.

The company will almost certainly refuse the unions' demand and strike ballots from mid-January are being planned. Any disruption over *The London Post* would almost certainly be regarded as unlawful secondary action, and unions would be open to heavy fines.

The pay and conditions agreement at the four papers expires at the end of this year, and the unions' original claims were presented in October. The jobs-for-life clause has been added in a letter sent to the company yesterday after a meeting of four of the five print unions at TUC Congress House.

The electricians' union (EETPU) is the only union to state that it could accede to the legally binding no-strike principle for the *Post*, which is to be printed at Wapping. The electricians also indicated that they might be prepared to sign an exclusive deal.

The company has set Christmas Eve as the deadline for union signatures. So far the only union to make any substantial progress has been the electricians.

If EETPU ignores Mr Willis's advice, there will almost certainly be renewed calls for its expulsion from the TUC.

The electricians do not have the support of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers on this issue, as they did in the disagreement over taking state aid for ballots.

Trade union traditionalists believe that the EETPU is planning to breach what is seen as a more fundamental principle.

After a lengthy session at Congress House yesterday with leaders of all five print unions, Mr Willis issued a formal letter saying that it was "imperative and urgent" that there should be a common approach to News International's proposals.

He said that there should be an early meeting of the Printing Industries Committee in order to work out a unified position. Mr Willis was acting undr rule 11 of the TUC, which allows the general secretary to interview and offer advice.

If there is no inter-union agreement, Mr Willis said that he would, if necessary report the matter to the TUC's "inner cabinet", the finance and general purposes committee. Miss Brenda Dean, general secretary of Sogat 82, said that she was "delighted" with Mr Willis's action and hoped for a new unity in the industry.

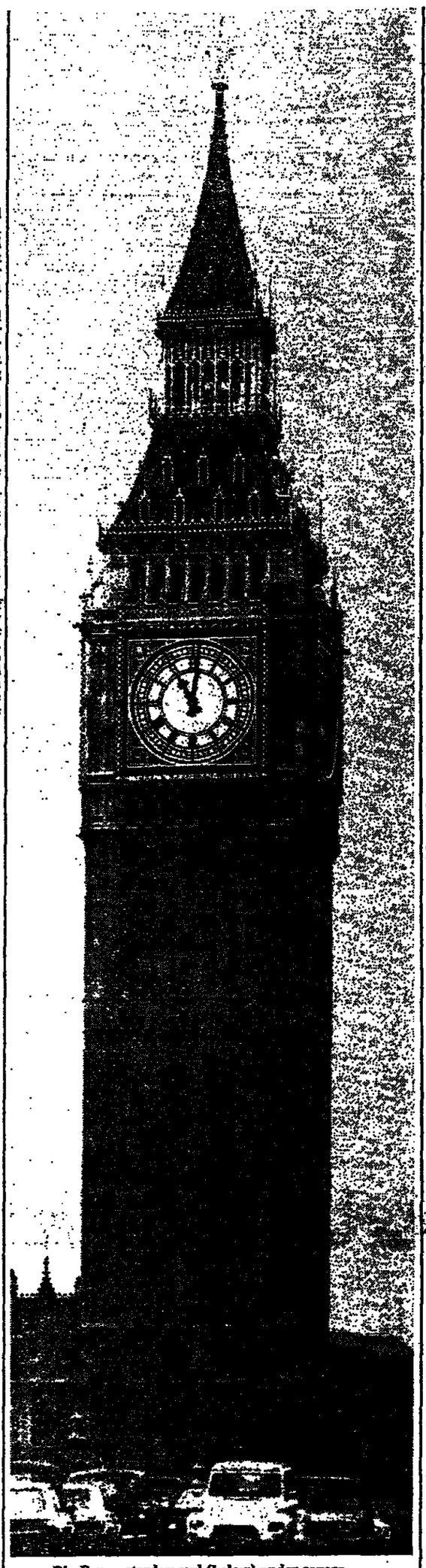
Mr Eric Hammond, general secretary of EETPU, and Mr Tom Rice, national officer for the printing industry, were not present yesterday at the meeting called by Mr Willis.

● A new conflict seemed likely last night at Mirror Group Newspapers as the company prepared to send out over the Christmas holiday compulsory redundancy notices to some journalists and print workers.

It was thought that 23 out of a total 205 journalists would be receivning notice of compulsory severance. An unknown number of their colleagues in the National Graphical Association and SOGAT will receive similar letters.

Mr Tony Dubbins, leader of the NGA, and Mr Harry Conroy, general secretary of the National Union of Journalists, said they were both opposed to compulsory redundancy and they would be getting in touch with their union official at the company. Most of those made redundant are volunteers

A spokesman for Mr Robert Maxwell, the publisher, said that the group had made it clear from the start that there might have to be compulsory redundancies.



Big Ben yesterday and (below) under covers.



Unions get warning on political levy

By Richard Evans
Lobby Reporter

Trade union leaders were accused by the Government last night of evading their responsibility to tell members of their rights not to pay a political levy.

Mr Peter Bottomley, a junior minister at the Department of Employment, said: "I am not satisfied that all trade union members are being made aware of their rights to contract out of paying the political levy."

Last year the TUC promised the Government to inform union members fully of their rights to contract out, make it simple for those wishing to do so, and issue guidance to all unions on the issue.

In return ministers agreed to drop a proposal to switch the onus on trade union members from contracting out to contracting in to a union's political fund; a move which would have damaged severely the Labour Party's finances.

Mr Bottomley said last night: "I have been monitoring the implementation of the TUC guidance through my own contacts with trade unionists. I have to say that I have seen little evidence so far that union members are being notified individually of their rights."

When the Trades Union Congress and the Government reached their agreement in February 1984, Mr Tom King, then Secretary of State for Employment, emphasized that the Government's decision not to proceed with contracting-in proposals in the Trade Union Bill 1984 rested on the firm expectation that TUC action would, in practice, be effective.

In a letter to the TUC Mr King said: "If it were not to prove effective then the Government must reserve its right to legislate to ensure union members are fully aware of the choice and are rightly able to exercise that choice."

In Whitehall it was being emphasized that ministers will be looking for opportunities to draw attention to trade unionists' rights to contract out of paying the political levy.

Productivity gains show better side of labour relations

By Our Labour Reporter

British labour relations and industrial performances are much better than believed, according to the privately-owned PA Management consultants.

Productivity gains between 1980 and 1984 for example, were greater than in any other developed country and are still improving rapidly, researchers found in a 12-month study.

Most companies in Britain have never experienced any industrial action, the consultancy says.

Although Britain cannot match the record of Japan or West Germany, its industrial relations performance is better than that of the United States, Australia or Canada.

The study's findings came from the analysis of statistical data from a 10-year period and through 200 interviews with union officials and managers.

The overall trend in Britain is towards still lower losses through strikes, 209 days a 1,000 employees between 1981 and 1983, compared with 737 in 1978-1980.

Although the figure of working days lost worsened last year, this was due almost entirely to the miners' strike. The number of stoppages recorded in 1984 was the lowest for any year since 1940. This trend has continued in 1985, with the number of stoppages during the first 10 months of the year the lowest recorded since 1936.

The management consultants investigated the "use and abuse" of shop stewards' power and concluded that persistent strikes occur only in a small number of declining industries. Of Britain's 350,000 shop stewards, 99 per cent have never led a strike.

Mr John Foden, PA's international chief executive, said the study was to correct the imbalanced picture of Britain's industrial relations.

"Headlines concentrating on industrial strife have done much to undermine confidence in Britain as an exporter and as a location for new investment.

"The truth is that strikes and stoppages represent only a minute fraction of the British industrial relations scene, and the vast majority of British companies work hard with unions to ensure an increasingly competitive performance."

Working days lost in all British industry and services 1980-1984 (millions) are: 1980, 12; 1981, 4.3; 1982, 5.3; 1983, 3.8; 1984 4.6.

All-clear for household satellite aerials

By Hugh Clayton, Environment Correspondent

Dish aerials up to a yard wide will be allowed to sprout from the walls and roofs of houses under new planning rules announced by the Government yesterday. The rules will also make it easier for the Civil Aviation Authority to put up radar scanners in the countryside and electricity boards to build small substations on housing estates.

The new rules are the first part of a widespread loosening of planning controls that the Government hopes will make it easier for new industries to start.

The most visible impact of yesterday's changes will be the appearance of dish aerials up to almost a yard wide on houses and blocks of flats. At present such aerials, which are needed for the household reception of satellite television broadcasts, need planning permission unless set up in back gardens.

New rules to operate from next March will allow householders who do not live in historic parts of towns or rural areas of natural beauty to fix the aerials anywhere on their houses and in their front gardens without asking for planning permission even if their neighbours object.

Jobs bias warning to Shorts

The largest employer in Northern Ireland's manufacturing industry has been warned that its equal opportunities certificate will be reviewed unless differences in the employment of Protestants and Roman Catholics are explained (Richard Ford writes).

If Short Brothers, employing 6,587 people, were to lose the Fair Employment Agency certificate, export prospects, especially in the huge United States market, could be damaged.

The aircraft and missile company in Protestant-dominated east Belfast has won a £150 million order to supply aircraft to the United States Air Force but it is understood that US officials are concerned at the rate of progress towards equality of employment.

Last night Mr Rhodes Boyson, Minister of State at the Northern Ireland Office, said: "It certainly would be a serious matter for it in America, where it is dependent on large orders. I think Shorts has moved to a situation where it can stand up and say: 'We really are a fair employer.' "

He said the warning should be a lesson to everyone in the province that the Fair Employment Agency had teeth and would use them when necessary. "People should get jobs according to ability and not to where they go to church on Sunday."

In spite of two years of effort to increase the numbers of Catholics employed, the agency is still concerned that so few Roman Catholics are employed.

Short Brothers began a drive two years ago to improve the ratio of Roman Catholics it employs and that has resulted with numbers increasing from 3-8 per cent to 14-17 per cent.

● Hundreds of families returned to their homes in Castlederg, Co Tyrone, yesterday after being evacuated when a Provisional IRA mortar struck the local RUC station.

SDLP is to contest four marginal seats

From Richard Ford, Belfast

The leadership of Northern Ireland's main nationalist party is to contest only four marginal constituencies in next month's election forced by the resignation of the 15 Unionist MPs at Westminster.

Their ambition is to win seats in which, on a sectarian head count, there is a natural nationalist majority, and sen Social Democratic and Labour Party members to join Mr John Hume, MP for Foyle, in Parliament.

Unionists and nationalists will concentrate on the constituencies of Down South, Newry and Armagh, Fermanagh South South Tyrone and Ulster Mid. At risk are the parliamentary careers of three local unionists and Mr Enoch Powell, whose defeat in Down South would a significant coup for the SDLP, and may not be unwelcome in some Unionist circles.

Mr Hume said after his party's decision: "We want to take the opportunity to improve our representation. This election gives us an opportunity to increase our strength at Westminster". The party was not contesting the remaining 11 seats where there were strong Unionist majorities, because it did not want to give credibility to the notion of a referendum on the Anglo-Irish agreement.

In the 11 remaining constituencies, the Official and Democratic Unionist (OUP and DUP) parties will put aside traditional rivalry and urge supporters to vote for the outgoing MP

The general election of June 1983 saw an overall turnout in the province of 72.8 per cent but that figure could be higher next month, given the heightened atmosphere

In Down South the joint Unionist vote was 24,436, compared with a combined nationalist vote of 24,219. Mr Powell, aged 73, has a majority of 548 over Mr Eddie McGrady, the SDLP chief whip, who will challenge him again.

In Ulster Mid, the Rev William McCrea, aged 37, has a majority of 78 for the DUP on a split Unionist vote, which in Fermanagh South Tyrone, mr Ken Maginnis, aged 47, received 28,630 votes for the OUP, against a split nationalist vote of 30,877. The Provisional Sinn Fein have traditionally done well in these seats.

The other 11 constituencies in which by-elections are to be held are: **North Antrim:** The Rev Ian Paisley, aged 59, leader DUP, majority 13,173; **South Antrim:** Mr Clifford Forsythe, aged 55, OUP, majority 6,792; **East Antrim:** Mr Roy Beggs, aged 49, OUP majority 367; **Belfast North:** Mr Cecil Walker, aged 60, OUP majority 7,079; **Belfast South:** The Rev Martin Smyth, aged 54, OUP majority 9,724; **Belfast East:** Mr Peter Robinson, aged 37, DUP majority 7,989; **Down North:** Mr James Kilfedder, aged 57, Ulster Popular Unionist Party majority 13,846; **Lagan Valley:** Mr James Molyneaux, aged 65, OUP majority 17,216; **East Londonderry:** Mr William Ross, aged 49, OUP majority 7,262; **Strangford:** Mr John Taylor, aged 47, OUP majority 7,370; and **Upper Bann:** Mr Harold McCusker, aged 45, OUP majority 17,081.

GENERAL ELECTION 1983

Percentage vote by party in crucial marginals

Constituency	OUP	DUP	SDLP	PSF	ALL	WP	Turnout	Maj.
Down South	40.3	7.3	39.2	7.9	3.5	1.7	76.8	548
Fermanagh and S Tyrone	47.6	–	16.5	34.8	–	1.1	88.6	7,676
Ulster Mid	13.1	30	22.4	29.9	3.2	1.4	84.3	78
Newry and Armagh	40	–	36.8	20.9	–	2.3	76	1,554

OUP: Official Unionist Party; DUP: Democratic Unionist Party; SDLP: Social Democratic and Labour Party; PSF: Provisional Sinn Fein; ALL: Alliance; WP: Workers Party.

The wraps come off Big Ben

By Alan Hamilton

After more than two years shrouded in modesty, the world's most recognizable clock tower has cast off its bathrobe to reveal a face and body scrubbed to a pristine freshness.

Cleaning Barry and Pugin's 314-foot campanile has cost £1.7 million, with an additional £150,000 for the screen of scaffolding and plastic sheeting that has cloaked the eastern tower of the Palace of Westminster since 1983, for much of that time obscuring the capital's most reliable timepiece.

Big Ben was last given a thorough bath and facelift in 1934, when decades of soot and pigeons had wrought havoc with its delicate skin of magnesian limestone from Anston in Yorkshire. There have been running repairs at odd times since, particularly in the 1950s to heal wartime damage, with crumbling corners patched with more durable Clipsham stone from Rutland.

Now, carefully washed and with its countless crockets and finials regilded, it is expected to survive another 75 years before the cleaners need attack it again, thanks to the relative cleanliness of the London air, much less noxious now than it was half a century ago.

Renovation of the clock tower is part of the restoration of the Palace of Westminster begun in 1981, shortly after a roof boss detached itself and descended to a seat occupied only minutes before by Lord Shinwell, born a mere 25 years after Big Ben had first struck the hour on July 11, 1859.

Work is still in progress on the riverside terrace frontage, and there remains the vast wall area of the 11 internal courtyards, as big again as the outside of the palace. Restoration is unlikely to be finished before the mid-1990s, when it will have cost an estimated £9 million at 1983 prices.

Although a clock tower formed an integral part of Barry's prize-winning neo-Gothic design to replace the old palace burnt down in 1834, the clock itself was not installed without much argument over design and price.

● Big Ben was photographed from the south side of Westminster bridge: exposure F8 at 1/250th of a second. The tower was photographed in four sections and joined up by *The Times* process department (Photograph: John Manning).

Warning as postal profits leap

By Edward Townsend
Industrial Correspondent

The Post Office made profits of £52 million in the six months to October, up by nearly 60 per cent on a year earlier, and gave a hint that the freeze on the price of stamps may continue after spring.

But Sir Ron Dearing, the chairman, criticized the Government for setting too high a profit target for the corporation and for taking too much out of the Post Office in the form of a negative external financing limit.

In spite of booming half-year profits, the total for the year should be about the same as last year's, £134 million, which will enable the corporation to meet the government target of a 4.5 per cent return.

Sir Ron said the target had more than doubled since 1980 and was now the second-highest after British Airways of any public enterprise. "For a business with social obligations, I think it is on the high side," he said.

The corporation's negative external financed limit, a device by which the Treasury absorbs a proportion of the profits, has risen from £60 million in 1984-85 to £70 million this year and has been set at £93 million for 1986-87. "We do not feel comfortable with this," Sir Ron said.

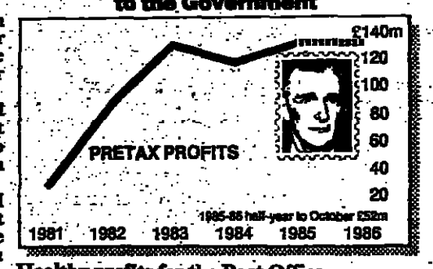
In addition, the Post Office will become liable in 1986-87 to pay tax, having used its reserve, of about £90 million.

The higher mail profits are the result of an increase of 275 million letters posted and improved efficiency and form the basis of the reduction of 1p in second-class post and the freezing of the 17p first-class stamp until the end of March. The reduction will cost a total of £20 million.

Sir Ron said: "We are glad to return to customers through this price reduction some of the benefits of our efforts to reduce costs. From a commercial point of view the success of the price reduction will be measured by the extent to which it attracts extra postings."

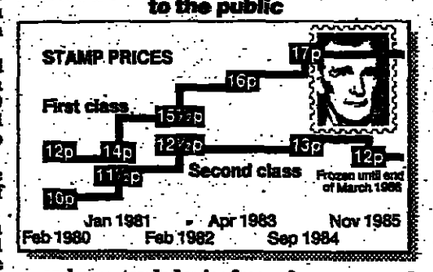
A drive to improve performance, including the so-called business efficiency programme agreed with the Union of Communication Workers earlier in the year, is showing results, the chairman said.

Sir Ron Dearing's new-year message to the Government



Healthy profits for the Post Office . . .

Sir Ron Dearing's new-year message to the public



. . . and an extended price freeze for customers?

Judge's doubts on use of drug for sex offender

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Strong criticism of a drug used by the Home Office on sex-offenders came after the jailing yesterday of a man who reoffended while undergoing treatment.

John Powell, a labourer, aged 34, of Chaucer Green, Woodside, Croydon, South London, was jailed for two years at the Central Criminal Court for sexually assaulting a boy aged 10, six months after his release from Wandsworth Prison.

He had been serving a similar jail term for indecent assault on five young boys. Powell was said to be of "low intelligence with the mind of a 10-year-old". During his 18 months at Wandsworth, doctors treated him with the drug Androcur to reduce "his sexual urges", Mr Samuel Colgan, for the prosecution said.

After his release in July 1983, he was still receiving the drug up until January 1984, when he attacked a young boy who was riding his bicycle across Ashburton playing fields in Croydon.

Mr Justice Kenneth Jones said in sentencing Powell: "The drugs are obviously of value in reducing sex drive in the normal person but not in people of low intelligence."

After yesterday's sentence, Powell's solicitor, Mr Christopher Ford, said: "These drugs are supposed to reduce sex drive but seem to have had the adverse effect in John's case. I don't know who is authorized to administer them but it seems as though their effects have not been thoroughly researched.

"I'm sure that they damage the brain and that's what happened in this case. We are not dealing with the mind of a normal person, and maybe that is where the mistake has been made."

Powell denied indecent assault but was convicted by a jury.

The Home Office said yesterday: "We will be studying what the judge has said." Androcur had been wused within the prison medical service for at least 10 years and was widely used outside.

Androcur is a product of Schering Chemicals Ltd, which expressed surprise at the allegations last night. A spokesman said: "There is no scientific basis for making the claims levelled against it."

The drug was introduced into the United Kingdom in 1974 and many thousands of patients had benefited from it. Many patients had been released into the community and satisfactorily maintained on Androcur. "They today lead a normal life," he said.

The suggestion that Androcur was capable of causing brain damage had never previously been raised.

The compound had also a number of different uses, as in treatment of prostatic cartinoma, when it was administered in a dosage three to six times greater than that commonly used for the successful treatment of sex offenders, the company said.

Cities get extra cash for bus industry changes

Big cities outside London are to be allowed to spend up to £35 million next year on redundancy and other costs arising from de-regulation of the bus industry, Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Transport, announced yesterday (our Transport Editor writes).

He has agreed to upward revisions from £372 million to £407 million on allowable expenditure levels in Greater Manchester, Merseyside, West Yorkshire, South Yorkshire, Tyne and Wear, and West Midlands after representations from the various passenger transport authorities that his earlier approved levels did not allow for the considerable uncertainties, especially in staff severance, arising from next year's changes.

Under the new regime existing operators, including municipal undertakings, will be allowed to retain only those services that require no subsidy. Subsidised services must be put out to competitive tender and many are likely to be "privatized".

	Former limit (£ millions)	New limit
G Manchester	74.3	83.6
Merseyside	75.2	81.3
S Yorkshire	50.5	59.3
Tyne & Wear	60.0	63.9
W Midlands	84.2	98.1
W Yorkshire	57.8	81.3
Total	372.0	407.4



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Joint managers for Hampstead Heath proposed

By Hugh Clayton
Environment Correspondent

Kenwood House and its 75 acres of grounds are to be shielded from the dispute about ownership of its surroundings on Hampstead Heath, after abolition of the Greater London Council.

No agreement about the destiny of the heath, apart from Kenwood, home of the Iveagh bequest, was reached yesterday at a meeting between Lord Elton, Minister of State at the Department of the Environment, and leaders of the three borough councils whose jurisdiction includes parts of the heath.

Lord Elton proposed that the three councils should consider joint management of the heath.

That brings to three the number of heath management plans before the Government. One is for the area outside Kenwood to be owned by the Labour-led Camden council and another for it to be managed by the non-party corporation of the City of London.

The Times overseas selling prices
Austria Sch 29; Belgium B frs 50; Canada $2.75; Canaries Pes 170; Cyprus 70 cents; Denmark Dkr 9.00; Finland Mrk 9.00; France Frs 8.00; Germany Dm 3.50; Gibraltar 60p; Greece Dr 180; Holland Gl 3.50; Iran Republic 40p; Italy L 2800; Luxembourg Lf 45; Madeira Esc 170; Malta 35c; Morocco Dir 10.00; Norway Kr 9.00; Pakistan Rps 18; Portugal Esc 170; Singapore $5.50; Spain Pes 170; Sweden Skr 9.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Tunisia Dis 2.0 00; USA $1.75; Yugoslavia Dm 350

Tobacco prices up 2p

Cigarette prices are going up by 2p for a packet of 20. Imperial Tobacco, Britain's biggest tobacco manufacturer, said last night the price increases would apply to orders going to the shops from January 20.

Other tobacco manufacturers are expected to follow suit shortly, and there are to be proportionate increases on cigars and pipe tobacco, with 2p on ten-packs of miniature cigars, five-and-six-packs of small whiff sized cigars, and on most 25-gramme packs of pipe tobacco.

هكذا من الأصل

Record compensation of £679,264 after operation went wrong

From Tim Jones, Cardiff

Record damages of £679,264 were awarded yesterday by a Cardiff High Court judge to a young woman whose life and brief marriage were ruined after a routine operation or the removal of her tonsils went wrong.

The court was told that Mrs Linda Thomas, now aged 27, was married only 19 days when she returned from a honeymoon in London almost 10 years ago to be told that because of a cancellation surgeons at University Hospital, Cardiff, were able to perform the operation for which she had waited two years.

But during the "roumtine" operation, she suffered a severe brain haemorhage and a heart attack, and was on the brink of death, since then, she has been, in the words of a doctor who examined her, "a profoundly damaged and difficult lady", who will require specialist care for the rest of her life.

Six months after the operation, her husband left her because he could no longer cope with the strain. The couple were divorced in 1984, and Mr Thomas has remarried.

For the Maffeys, their daughter's descent into wheelchair helplessness was the second catastrophe in their lives. Eleven years before their daughter's operation, their son, aged four, had died. He too had suffered brain damage after reacting to a tetanus injection given to Mrs Maffey when she had been bitten by a dog during pregnancy.

Through her father, Mr Frank Maffey, of Norwood Crescent, Barry, South Glamorgan, Mrs Thomas made the claim for damages against the anaesthetist, Professor John R Wignall, and the South Glamorgan Health Authority, who jointly admitted liability. Eight years had gone by before the authority conceded that the anaesthetist had made a mistake, the court was told.

Incontent, sometimes violent, with a mental age of only a six-year-old, and a reduced life expectancy of 55, Mrs Thomas's behaviour at times has been so unmanagable that two hospitals have been unable to cope

The damages, exceeding the previous record of £580,547 awarded earlier this week to Miss Beverley Brightman, will enable Mrs Thomas to be moved to a purpose-built bungalow a short distance from her parents' home, where she will receive constant care from a couple who will live with her and other professional helpers.

After the case, Mr Maffey, who gave up his job as a builder for two years in order to qualify for legal aid, said: "The thing that upsets me most was the length of time it took the authority to admit liability. Why did they have to put us through it all?

"I had to give up my job because of the law, which I think is very unfair to the small man and should be changed."

His wife, Barbara, who because of the strain has been receiving psychiatric help, said: "I would much rather have by daughter back as she was. There were times over the last 10 years when we felt like giving up, but we kept going for our daughter's sake. It was 10 years but it felt like 100."

Their daughter became engaged to Mr Gwyn Thomas when she was 16, and married him one year later. Although averagely bright at school, she did not pursue examinations because her dream was to settle down and raise a family while working part or full-time to help support them. Some of the wedding presents they received were never opened.

During the operation Mrs Thomas suffered a cerebral anoxia, severe oxygen deprivation.

Asked why it had taken eight years for them to admit liability, a spokesman for the health authority said: "We have no comment to make because we are considering the possibility of an appeal".

RAF ends Ethiopia famine mission



Wing Commander Roger Green displaying an ostrich egg, a gift from the Ethiopian government as the last of the RAF's famine relief air crews flew back to RAF Lyneham, Wiltshire, yesterday.

The 14-month airdrop of supplies to the famine area ended formally with the return of the last air force planes involved in Operation Bushel.

Wing commander Green's aircraft was one of 14 Hercules from the Wiltshire air base to take part in the mission, dropping mostly grain supplies. The crew clocked up nearly 4,000 hours of flying. They flew more than 2,150 missions, and distributed more than 32,150 tonnes of cargo in Ethiopia.

Wing Commander Green, the detachment commander, said their task had been a "fire brigade" one, bringing relief to starving people, but the immediate emergency was over, many of the air drops of grain were destined for stockpiling, and the country's harvest was due.

The aid effort is not being relaxed. Band Aid Express, a ship carrying food for Ethiopia, will leave Tilbury tomorrow, and (left) dockers loading grain and flour donated by Scottish Schoolchildren (Tilbury photograph: Peter Trevenor)



Hormones ban 'will push up beef prices'

By John Young and Richard Owen

The price of beef in shops is likely to rise by at least 4p a pound as the result of an EEC ban on the use of growth promoting hormones, the National Farmers' Union gave a warning yesterday.

The ban, decreed by agriculture ministers in Brussels early yesterday morning in the face of objections from Britain, the Irish Republic and Denmark, will come into effect in two years, except in Britain, which has been exempted until January 1, 1989.

The decision has been welcomed by consumer groups and most members of the European Parliament.

But it has dismayed farmers, scientists and veterinary surgeons who have argued that it has no scientific justification and will be difficult to enforce because of the impossibility of detecting implanted hormones.

Mr Michael Jopling, Minister of Agriculture, who opposed the ban for that reason, said yesterday that no method had been devised so far of policing imports of beef from non-EEC countries.

Some 400,000 tonnes of beef a year are imported by European countries, in processed form or for manufacturing purposes, from the United States, South America, Africa, Australia and New Zealand.

The ban is seen as a reaction partly to consumer fears about possible risks to human health, although those are officially discounted, and partly in the hope of reducing the 75,000 tonne beef "mountain".

The meat trade claims that apart from bearing heavily on producers, the Meat and Livestock Commission estimated yesterday that it would cost British farmers £40 million a year, the ban will push up shop prices and make it more difficult to produce the lean meat that consumers are said to be demanding.

Inspector is jailed over seized drugs

A police inspector and a constable were given jail sentences at the Central Criminal Court yesterday for their part in the concealment of drugs found in a police raid on a club in Soho, London.

Insp Norman McGowan, aged 35, and Police Constable Michael Buchanan, aged 23, both of West End Central police station, were sentenced to 12 months and six months respectively, Buchanan's sentence to be suspended for two years.

A jury had found them guilty of stealing a Metropolitan Police bag containing a herbal substance, stationery and other articles

McGowan was also found guilty of instructing Police Constable Richard O'Kane, with the intention of perverting the course of justice.

Gloves led to the arrest of rapist

A multiple rapist was jailed for 10 years at the Central Criminal Court yesterday after being trapped by police because he wore two pairs of gloves.

Judge Thomas Pigot, QC, the Common Serjeant, praised the four victims for their courage in going to the police immediately and giving a full description of their assailant including the fact that he wore two gloves on each hand.

Sylvester Semper, aged 24, a decorater, of Westbridge Road, Battersea, South London, was arrested after a probationary policemen remembered he has stopped a man wearing four gloves and had taken his name and address.

Semper admitted kniife point rape attacks on four women, including, at a flat in Wandsworth, two sisters aged 23 and 25. The sisters held hands "for comfort" when he raped them in the same bed.

The elder sister, acting with "extreme selflessness", had allowed herself to be raped if Semper agreed to leave the younger women alone. But he went back on his word, and both women were raped twice.

Mr Roy Amlot, for the prosecution, said the attacks had been "horrifying" for all of the victims. But each young woman had the courage to call police and was able to help them to such an extent that Semper was arrested only a day after he committed the final rape, on April 1.

The other two victims were a woman artist, aged 24, who lived on a Victorian flat in Clapham, south London, and a woman aged 25 who shared a flat in Battersea.

Drugs dealer jailed

Thomas Comerford, a drugs dealer, who manipulated a £1 million international narcotics ring based in Liverpool, was jailed for 14 years at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

Dean Yardi, aged 30, his second-in-command, was jailed for 10 years.

They were found guilty of conspiring to supply heroin, cocaine, LSD, amphetamines and canabis, ans possessing half a kilo of heroin with intent to supply.

Mrs Margaret Avis, aged 31, of Salisbury Street, Everton, Liverpool, was acquitted of smuggling cannabis.

Eric Bartlett, aged 57, of Mandalay Road, Clapham, south-west London, was later sentenced to four years' jail after he admitted plotting with Comerford and Yardi to supply drugs.

Toy pony warning

Trading standards officers yesterday warned the public not to buy a battery-operated toy pony after a baby boy became seriously ill

The child, aged five months, of north Leeds, is on a life-support system with severe brain damage and not expected to live, Mr Christopher Hobbs, consultant at St James's hospital, Leeds, said.

The boy was found unconscious within minutes of playing with the eight-inch high "Musical Pony" from Taiwan. Surgeons removed a ball of nylon which the child had apparently inhaled.

The toy, sold under the Lakeland Products brand, "is not safe under any circumstances to any child at all". Mr John Bennett, director of trading standards in West Yorkshire, said yesterday.

Sinclair holds joint lead in micro sales

Sinclair and Commodore still dominate the home computer market in the pre-Christmas sales rush in the high street (Our Technology Correspondent writes).

Figures from Gallop and the magazine *Microscope* show the Sinclair Spectrum and the Commodore 64 in the lead for software – computer program – sales during the third week in November among 300 retailers. The sample includes Woolworth, Menzies and Virgin.

Most microcomputers on sale in the high sreet are accompanied by software, some sold at cost. Retailers are making money on the hardware, much of which including some supposedly manufactured in Britain, is made in the Pacific Basin.

Microcomputer sales were disappointing last year: about a million were sold in the two months before Christmas. Stock left over led to fierce competition with prices being slashed and profit margins cut.

It is too early to obtain an accurate figure on the volume of sales, but shops expect fewer computer to be sold this year than last year.

Face-to-face with the truth about smokers

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

Doctors can recognize cigarette smokers by looking them in the face, according to research published yesterday.

Smoking can change facial characteristics, producing gauntness, wrinkles and a grey tinge to the skin. But "smoker's face" may disappear after the habit has been abandoned.

"Many people notice the ravages of smoking for the first time when it is pointed out to them that they can be identified as smokers by their faces alone," Dr Doublas Model, a consultant physician, says in an article in the *British Medical Journal*.

"The fact that smoking can affect the face so profoundly is important because it is so readily appreciated by patients themselves," he writes.

The concept of smoker's face, properly explained and supported perhaps by poster photographs, might be helpful in anti-smoking campaigns, Dr Model, of Eastbourne district general hospital, says.

Dr Model surveyed 116 middle-aged patients, of whom 41 were cigarette smokers, 37 former smokers, and 38 non-smokers. He found the smoker's face was present in 46 per cent of smokers, in three former smokers, and in none of the non-smokers.

The characteristics included lines or wrinkles around the eyes and lips, subtle gauntness, and sunken cheeks. In some cases, these changes are associated with "a leathery, worn or rugged appearance", Dr Model says.

Readers of the journal are invited to identify smokers from photographs, including the late W. H. Auden, the poet, the late William Holden, the actor, both smokers and Mr David Simpson, director of Action on Smoking Health (ASH), a non-smoker.

● Memory tests in a study of patients suffering senile dementia included questions about the reigning monarch, present prime minister and previous prime minister.

Records at the Bethlem and Maudsley hospitals in London showed that the Queen was recalled more often than Mr Harold Macmillan in 1962, and more often than Mr Harold Wilson in 1969, but patients last year recalled Mrs Thatcher more often than the Queen.

"Only Mrs Thatcher entered into the consciousness of patients to an extent that made her easier to recall than the Queen," Dr Ian Deary, of the psychology department at Edinburgh University, reports in the BMJ.



Spot the non-smoker (from left): W H Allden, at 55; Mr David Simpson, at 40; William Holden at 42.

Warning on Aids and pregnancy

Women found to have been exposed to the Aids virus should not have childrern, a report commissioned by the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists says. Such women who fail to avoid pregnancy should be offered abortions. The guidelines have been drawn up by Dr Anthony Pinching, and Dr Donald Jeffries, of St Mary's Hospital medical school, in London.

Dr Pinching said yesterday there was evidence that pregnancy could put a woman who had been exposed to the virus at increased risk of developing Aids. There was a high risk that any child she gave birth to would be infected and quickly develop Aids.

Cilla Black case delayed

The High Court damages claim by Cilla Black, the singer, against British Rail for allegedly using her voice without her permission in a television advertising campaign will not be heard until the new year. At a private hearing yesterday, practice directions were given over the filing of evidence.

The film at the centre of the claim shows an elderly woman being helped to her seat in a train while Miss Black is heard singing the words from one of her biggest hits, "Step Inside Love".

Tebbit apology over libel

Mr Norman Tebbit, the Conservative Party chairman, apologized in the High Court yesterday for libel in a party political broadcast.

He also agreed to pay the legal costs of Mr Colin Steel, national chairman ofthe Prison Officers Associaton, for giving the impression that Mr Steel had voted in favour of Mr Arthur Scargill at the TUC conference in September.

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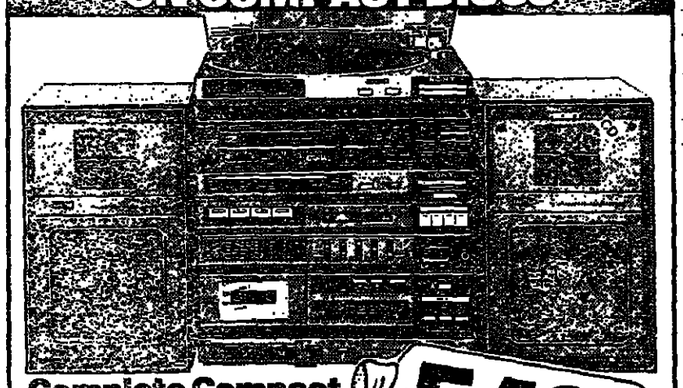
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Powers to strip drug traffickers of all assets proposed in Bill

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

New powers to strip drug traffickers of their assets are contained in legislation, published yesterday by the Government, which also requires convicted traffickers to prove that their wealth is not the proceeds of drug dealing.

The Bill makes it an offence to launder drugs cash, punishable by a maximum of 14 years' imprisonment. This covers anyone who facilitates the retention, control or investment of the proceeds of drugs trafficking by someone else, knowing, or with reason to suspect, that the person is a trafficker.

Those who assisted in converting the assets of trafficking were as guilty as those selling drugs, Mr David Mellor Under Secretary of State at the Home Office, said when he outlined *the provisions of the Drug* Trafficking Offences Bill.

The Bill provides powers to investigate *the financial dealings* of drug traffickers. Where there are reasonable grounds for suspecting that a person has engaged in drug trafficking, the police or customs will be able to apply to a circuit judge for an order requiring the disclosure of information likely to be of valueto the investigation.

Powers will be available to obtain information held by banks, other financial institutions, the Inland Revenue and other government departments. It would be the first time that the police would be able to get information from the Inland Revenue, Mr Mellor said.

When a person has been convicted in a crown court for a trafficking offence, the court will be required to make a confiscation order to deprive a trafficker of the total value of the proceeds of trafficking, in addition to whatever sentence the court considers appropriate to the offence.

The confiscation order will not be limited to the proceeds of the offence alone, but will take account of trafficking offences generally. The court will be able to assume that the whole of an offender's assets, together with any property that has passed *through his hands during the* previous five years, represents the proceeds of trafficking, unless the offender can prove the contrary.

Once a confiscation order has been made, the High Court will have powers to appoint a receiver to realize any of the offender's assets, to meet the order. Assets which have been in the hands of the offender, but transferred to third parties for less than full value, may be included also, provided the transfer has taken place within the previous five years or the assets can be shown to represent the proceeds of drug trafficking.

If the offender's property has been spirited away so that the confiscation order is not met in full, the Bill will provide for increased maximum periods of imprisonment in default, on a sliding scale.

There will be a maximum of 12 months for up to £20,000 not paid; 18 months for £50,000; two years for £100,000; three years for £250,000; five years for up to £1 million; and 10 years for more than £1 million; to be served in addition to any other prison sentence the court imposes.

Once proceedings have begun in connection with a drug trafficking offence, the prosecution will be able to apply to the High Court for an order freezing any assets that might subsequently be needed to meet a confiscation order.

The Bill creates an offence of prejudicing a drug trafficking investigation. Anyone who warns a suspect that his affairs are being investigated, faces a maximum prison term of five years.

The Government hopes that a United Nations Convention will be agreed with a view to the enforcement of orders made by British courts against assets held overseas, and vice versa.

The Bill in general applies to England and Wales, but it is expected that equivalent legislation will be introduced soon for Scotland and Northern Ireland.

Mr Mellor said that he hoped the Bill would receive a second reading in January.



With fresh turkey selling at about 99p a pound, the owner of these birds in Avon is taking no chances, although the expression on the face of his three-year-old guard dog, King, suggests that the dog might welcome any intruders as light relief.

Stricter checks on luggage to curb aircraft terrorism

From John Best, Ottawa

Moving with unusual swiftness, the International Civil Aviation Organization in Montreal has adopted new security measures designed to cut the number of terrorist acts against aircraft and air travellers.

One new provision makes it mandatory for member-states of the 156-nation organization to establish stiff rules for screening and controlling unaccompanied baggage.

The crash of an Air-India airliner off the Irish coast on June 23 is widely believed to have been caused by a bomb in luggage sent by someone who did not board the aircraft. All 329 people on board the jumbo jet, bound from Toronto to Delhi via London, were killed.

The same day, two baggage handlers were killed at Narita airport, Tokyo, when a bomb went off in luggage that had just been unloaded from a Canadian Pacific Airlines plane from Vancouver. That suitcase, too, was unaccompanied.

It was because of these incidents, and a spate of hijackings and other terrorist acts against civilian aircraft, that the International Civil Aviation Organization's 33-member council moved to tighten security controls.

After the measures were approved by a unanimous vote of the council on Thursday night, Mr Assad Kotaite, the president, said it was "unprecedented" for an international regulatory body to consider and push through an important set of rules in such a short time.

Airlines will be required to ensure that baggage of passengers who have not reported for embarkation is not placed on board a departing plane, or kept on board, unless it has been subjected to thorough control procedures. This rule is to come into effect in two years.

Similar procedures are recommended for packages on consignment, and baggage, accompanied or unaccompanied, from places other than airline check-in counters.

Additional measures include: Better security control of transfer and transit passengers and their cabin baggage; improved steps to deny access to aircraft by unauthorized people; stiffer controls over cargo, mail and other supplies; security personnel to have the right to inspect aircraft believed likely to be the target of a hijacking.

● VALLETTA: The Maltese Prime Minister, Dr Carmela Mifsud Bonnici, has confirmed that three senior American army officers accompanied the Egyptian commandos who stormed the hijacked Egyptair jet at Luqa airport last month (Austin Sammut writes).

But he said in the House of Representatives that his Government had refused permission to "someone much stronger than us" to land and take part in the storming. He was thought to be referring to a US task force.

Unions split at graffiti school

The three teaching unions involved in the obscene graffiti dispute were split yesterday after a compromise deal was struck with two unions to resume teaching at Poundswich High School in Manchester next term.

The dispute began in June when five boys daubed sexual and racist graffiti about members of staff. The unions refuse still to allow members to teach the accused boys.

The two unions which reached a deal with the city council on Thursday night were *the National Union of Teachers* and the Assistant Masters' and Mistresses' Association. It did not include 18 members of the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers.

Mr Joe Lowrey, the union's local secretary, said: "We cannot make any moves until they withdraw the letters sending our members home. These teachers are still suspended."

Woman loses fight against M40 link

The £223 million extension of the M40 across Oxfordshire was approved by the Court of Appeal yesterday.

The court dismissed an appeal by Miss Helen Anscomb, environmental campaigner, against the refusal of the High Court in May to quash the aproval given to the scheme by Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Transport.

Seven months of legal action, reported to have brought her close to bankruptcy, forced the Government to suspend work on the 35 mile extension from Banbury to Warwick pending yesterday's decision.

The extension is part of government plans to turn the M40 into the main London to Birmingham road. At present it stops just short of Oxford but will eventually join the M42 south of Birmingham to relieve traffic from the overused M1.

One of more than 1,000 objectors to the scheme, Miss Anscomb, aged 38, claimed that the minister, in reaching his decision, had not given sufficient reason or consideration to alternative schemes put forward by her and other objectors.

She claims ther would be no need for the extension if the M1 was improved for freight traffic was switched from the M1 to the under-used Oxford to Birmingham railway line.

But the Court of Appeal said that in reaching his decision the minister had fulfilled his obligations under the Highways Act 1980.

They ordered Miss Anscomb, former classics teacher from Ashmansworth, near Newbury, Berkshire, to pay the cost of the High Court hearing and the appeal. Her counsel, Mr Robert Carnwath, said it was "harsh" on a private individual, who believed "passionately" in what she was doing.

Outside the court Miss Anscomb said she would not appeal to the House of Lords.

Worst work hazard in US is smoking

Washington (NYT) The Surgeon General of the United States said yesterday that cigarette smoking represented a greater health threat to most American workers than workplace hazards.

In addition, Dr C. Everett Koop said cigarette smoking greatly increased the threat to life already faced by workers in hazardous industries, such as those that use asbestos.

Studies had established that workers in asbestos had five times more cases of lung cancer than did workers in other industries, even if the asbestos workers did not smoke. But when cigarette smoking was added, the report said, the rate was even higher.

People who smoked but did not work in asbestos had 10 times more lung cancer than non-smokers not in the asbestos industry, but asbestos workers who smoked had 50 times more lung cancer cases than non-smoking workers elsewhere.

These findings were among those released by Dr Koop in his annual report on smoking.

Besides asbestos, other industries studied for the compounding effect of cigarettes and workplace hazards were coal and metal mining, petrochemicals, pesticides and cotton textiles. The workplaces studied also included those in which workers were exposed to aromatic amines, a chemical used in the manufacture of textile dyes.

In each case there was found to be a workplace hazard. And in each case those who smoked cigarettes faced a greater threat.

The report also said that blue-collar workers were more at risk than white-collar workers because they smoked more and were exposed to more disease-causing workplace agents; the employers should be required to provide a work environment that did not promote smoking or interfere with its cessation; and that black workers had higher smoking rates than white workers.

Damages for Rolls-Royce ex-chief

Ian Fraser, former chairman of Rolls-Royce, was awarded "handsome" libel damages in the High Court yesterday after he was wrongly linked with the near-collapse of Johnson Matthey Bankers.

An article in the Daily Mail alleged that he was not merely guilty of impropriety but of the grossest criminal conduct, Mr Andrew Caldecott, his counsel, said.

He told Mr Justice Michael Davies that Mr Fraser, who had been chairman of Lazard Brothers, the merchant bankers, had no connection with JMB, although another Mr Ian Fraser, wholly unrelated, was a director of JMB.

The plaintiff had even placed advertisements in national newspapers because of ill-informed gossip, the hearing was told, but last month the *Daily Mail* carried an article headed "Chancellor is proverting justice over cash scandal". It wrongly printed a photograph of the plantiff beside the article.

The paper published an apology and Sir David English, the editor wrote a personal letter of apology, but gossip continued, Mr Caldecott said. Mr Fraser was caused "the greatest distress and embarrassment.

Miss Victoria Sharp, for Associated Newpapers, the publishers, said they were glad to repeat their apology for the "grave libel"

They agreed to pay undisclosed damages and all legal costs.

London council rent arrears top £125m

By Colin Hughes, Local Government Correspondent

Council tenants in London owe a record £125 million in rent arrears, according to new figures published yesterday.

A survey carried out by *London Housing* magazine showed that, in inner London, 47 per cent of tenants are in arrears.

The magazine, published by *housing charities*, shows that huge arreas have built up because many tenants are unable to pay through poverty, and because borough councils fail to act quickly to collect rents.

The survey also demonstates that nearly two out of every three tenants in London receive housing benefit. The Government's new scheme for distributing benefits directly "has had little or no impact in reducing or stabilizing arrears", the survey says.

Of the £125 million total, more than £33 million is unlikely to be recovered, because, it is owed by former tenants, from whom it is notoriously difficult to collect debts. Arrears in the poorer areas of inner London are twice as high as in the outer London boroughs.

The five borough which head the inner London arreas table are all rate-capped authorities: Southwark (owed £23.5 million), Lambeth (£13.5 million), *Islington (£9,8 million)*, Hackney (9.4 million) and Lewisham (£7.3 million).

In outer London, the borough of Brent is owed £10.4 million, and has 71 per cent of its tenants in arrears. That means that arrears in Brent make up nearly one-third of the borough's total collectable rent.

LONDON RENT ARREARS

Borough (1985)	Total Rent Arrears (£)	% of Tenants in Arrears
Inner London		
Camden	6,932,428	54.8
City	90,801	–
Greenwich	3,782,958	49.1
Hackney	9,437,419	64
Hammersmith & Fulham	2,334,055	48.59
Islington	9,872,814	–
Kensington & Chelsea	1,335,569	41.1
Lambeth	13,577,926	40.6
Lewisham	7,312,218	57
Southwark	23,500,000	34
Tower Hamlets (inc ex-GLC stock)	3,148,150	–
Wandsworth	4,827,735	49.1
Westminster	2,281,542	34
Inner London Total	88,177,385	
Outer London		
Barking	1,067,499	38.6
Barnet	950,499	38.2
Bexley	466,331	35.0
Brent	10,401,180	71
Bromley	703,448	25
Croydon	–	–
Ealing	2,195,772	46.1
Enfield	1,428,458	44.62
Haringey	5,102,070	48.1
Harrow	704,238	40
Havering	670,488	11.2
Hillingdon	507,825	43.77
Hounslow	1,138,000	42.2
Kingston	163,300	20
Merton	1,156,917	24.81
Newham	4,795,837	57.3
Redbridge	606,187	–
Richmond	–	–
Sutton	802,301	35
Waltham Forest	4,500,000	50.4
Outer London Total	£37,212,562	
All London Total	£125,389,947	



Judy Carne, the actress, who was remanded on bail to January 17 by Uxbridge magistrates in west London, yesterday charged with smuggling cocaine and cannabis at Heathrow airport on December 15. Miss Carne, aged 46, was charged under her maiden name, Joyce Botterill.

BA cleared for dock airline stake

The Government will not intervene in the proposed acquisition by British Airways of a stake in Brymon Airways, the provincial carrier that will operate out of London's proposed new City airport in Docklands (Our Transport Editor writes).

British Airways is to take 14 per cent of Brymon's voting shares and a 40 per cent share of the capital in a company otherwise owned by Brymon management. Fears had been expressed that British Airways, with its huge market strength could exercise influence detrimental to the interests of other regional airlines.

Attack on mother in hospital

A woman aged 39 who had just given birth to her first child was attacked by a masked man armed with a knife as she lay in a private recovery room at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, west London, yesterday morning.

The woman, who did not wish to be identified, suffered lacerations to her hands when she tried to grab the knife held to her throat. The man was seen in a corridor before escaping at about 3am.

Det Supt Bryan Jackson said yesterday that police were looking for a stockily built man in a dark bomber jacket.

Lecturer in campus row to leave

From Paul Routledge
Singapore

A British academic accused of writing "half truths" about the trade union movement in Singapore is to leave the republic's national university. Mr Chris Leggett, aged 45, senior lecturer in the university's school of management, yesterday told the vice-chancellor, Professor Lim Pin, that he does not wish his contract to be renewed.

Without a work permit, he will also have to leave the country. He has studied the system of industrial relations here for six years, culminating in an article, "The Management of Compliance", which angered Singapore authorities.

Mr Leggett and his British colleague, Dr Barry Wilkinson, aged 29, co-author of the offending article, were attacked by Mr Lim Boon Heng, a leading MP of the ruling People's Action Party and Assistant General Secretary of the Singaporean TUC.

They declined a challenge from Mr Lim to a public debate, and the affair has become something of a *cause célèbre* in the Singapore press and on the Kent Ridge campus, where it has stirred anxiety about freedom of academic expression.

In his letter to the vice-chancellor, Mr Leggett complained of "public vilification" making it difficult for him to continue his research and teaching.

Chinese who took bribes given life

From Mary Lee
Peking

A high-ranking official of the Chinese Communist Party has been sentenced to life imprisonment in Canton for taking bribes from Hong Kong businessmen engaged in the illegal export of herbal medicines, the *People's Daily* reported yesterday.

Mr Yu Kilin, former manager and party secretary of the Guangdong Provincial Medicinal Company, was jailed with Mr Wang Weicheng, deputy director of the company's planning division.

They were reported to have accepted colour televisions, refrigerators, cameras, bicycles and more than 7,000 Yuan (£1,537) each.

In return, they underpriced Chinese herbs and allowed the unnamed businessmen to bypass regulations governing such exports, which are highly sought after in Hong Kong and Chinese communities overseas.

Citing a circular from the Central Discipline Inspection Commission, which stripped Mr Ma Xneliang, director of the Peking Public Utilities Bureau, of his party membership, the newspaper said the Ma case had "upset reform, spoiled the reputation of the party, undermined the party's style and social value and corrupted workers and cadres."

Mr Ma is facing trial with others for blackmail and racketeering.

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PARLIAMENT DECEMBER 20 1985

Scandal of homeless at Christmas

HOUSING

The stable in Bethlehem would offer more comfort than some of the bed and breakfast accommodation that many mothers and their children would enjoy in London this Christmas, Mr Tony Banks (Newham North West, Lab) told the Commons when he initiated a debate on homelessness.

Within a few yards of this House (he said) may be found hundreds of men and women, young and old, who are sleeping rough on the street.

London this year would reach the depressing record of more than 27,000 households accepted by the boroughs as being homeless. They would have more than 20,000 single homeless in unsatisfactory accommodation or sleeping rough.

The scandal of London's homelessness was getting worse, and was directly attributable to Government cuts in housing investment.

I find it peculiarly obscene (he said) that the same Prime Minister whose economic and social policies keep so many of my constituents homeless can afford to go out and spend £460,000 on a neo-Georgian bunker in Dulwich.

Sir George Young, Under Secretary of State for the Environment, said the rise in the number of homeless had something to do with the significant social changes that had taken place. For instance, 20 per cent of those who became homeless



Banks: Prime Minister's bunker in Dulwich

in England did so simply because of marital breakdown. For other social reasons, young people were leaving home earlier and in far greater numbers than they used to do. This was a social factor independent of government.

Standards in some bed and breakfast accommodation were most unsatisfactory. The Secretary of State for the Environment, Mr Kenneth Baker, was consulting local authorities and other interest bodies about a draft circular drawing attention to the wide-ranging powers local authorities had for securing improvements in bed and breakfast hotels and other houses in multiple occupation.

The department was also considering a number of further measures to relieve the problem of homelessness, including utilisation of existing public and private housing stock and ways of ensuring local authorities concentrated their provision on those in greatest need.

● From January 1, local authority tenants and new town and housing association tenants will be able to carry out housing repairs costing between £20 and £200 themselves and then be reimbursed by the local authority, Sir George Young, Under Secretary of State for the Environment, said when replying to a debate on housing initiated by Mr Harry Cohen (Leyton, Lab). This was a worthwhile extension of rights to local authority tenants, the minister said.

Mill closure a matter for management

GARTCOSH

The Ravenscraig steel works would be no worse off, and would probably be slightly better off, if the Gartcosh cold-rolling mill regrettably had to close, Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland, told the Commons.

That was his view on the evidence so far presented to him, but he would look at the report of the Select Committee on Scottish affairs with an open mind, give it the most careful consideration and respond to it in the new year.

In a statement to the House, Mr Younger said the decision to close Gartcosh was a matter for the commercial judgement of the British Steel Corporation. The issues raised by the proposed closure were commercial, managerial and technical rather than strategic.

A revised statement promised

INSURANCE

A revised statement of insurance practice was promised shortly by Mr Michael Howard, Under Secretay of State for Trade and Industry, to help stop those with insurance cover from finding they are not entitled to make claims.

He was replying in the Commons to Mr Greenville Janner (Leicester West, Lab) who raised the case of Mr Tony O'Shea, a Birmingham jeweller, who had been offered only £10,000 of a £50,000 burglary claim by Lloyd's.

He said this highlighted an evil practice of which Lloyd's should be deeply ashamed and was a scandal as great as the major frauds alleged against Lloyd's in the Commons recently.

Mr O'Shea had not stated on the insurance form that he had a previous conviction for receiving stolen goods, but the form had not asked for such information.

Mr Howard said this was not a matter for legislation at this stage but discussions were well advanced for revising insurance practice.

Mr Janner said he would be trying to bring in a Bill to reform insurance laws and prevent the exclusion of insurance contracts from the effects of the Unfair Contract Terms Act 1977.

The House adjourned for the Christmas Recess until January 13.

UN food body sees tide turn in war on hunger

From Peter Nichols, Rome

The proportion of the world's population suffering from malnutrition in the developing countries has dropped for the first time in four decades, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization said yesterday.

Mr Edward Saouma, its Director-General says there was "evidence of a turn in the tide", in the organization's fifth world food survey published here. But this does not mean that the total number of hungry has dropped. Rapid population growth forced up the number.

Among the developing regions, Africa has the slowest growth rate in food supplies per head and also the largest increase in the number of undernourished. Mr Saoma says, from the African example, that "widespread malnutrition can all too quickly turn into actual famine and starvation". He says causes of malnutrition are multi-dimensional and the relative affects of the various causes cannot be determined.

But he sees poverty as the most important cause and children as the main sufferers.

He seeks more attention for the place of women. "Because of the many roles that women play in the food system of developing countries – not only as mothers but also as farmers, labourers, traders and teachers – the gains of women should be raised and their education improved.

هكذا من الأصل

US says East-West arms pact is in sight at Stockholm conference

Stockholm (Reuter) – Nato delegates to the 35-nation Stockholm Conference on Disarmament in Europe said yesterday they were confident the talks would soon produce the first East-West arms control agreement since 1979.

"We have an agreement virtually within our grasp," the chief US delegate, Mr Robert Barry, told reporters as the two-year-old talks ended their eighth session. "I believe there is political will to start drafting and, more importantly, to get an agreement."

The conference is part of the détente process launched by the 1975 Helsinki accords. It groups the US, the Soviet Union, Canada and 32 European nations in talks aimed at reducing the risk of war in Europe as a result of surprise attack, accident or miscalculation.

The Soviet representative, Mr Oleg Grinevsky, said last month's Geneva summit between President Reagan and Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, the Soviet leader, had had a profound influence on the Stockholm talks.

"The atmosphere has become more businesslike and it was possible to pick a number of questions which could form the substance of a future agreement," he told reporters.

The last East-West arms control accord was the 1979 Salt2 treaty, which the US never ratified.

Delegates settled the last important procedural question on Thursday when they agreed a working schedule for 1986 which gives them until September 19 to complete their work.

The conference is due to report to a full meeting of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, which begins preparatory sessions in Vienna on September 23.

Work on drafting a final agreement is expected to start in earnest in the next session, starting on January 28, under the chairmanship of coordinators from four neutral countries who were appointed last week.

Mr Grinevsky said it was possible a concluding document might be on paper by September. Mr Barry said there had been a real convergence of views between East and West on the goals of the conference, although he added that drafting a detailed accord would not be easy.

Areas of general agreement included key Nato proposals on annual forecasts of military activities, lowering the threshold for advance notification of military activities and inviting observers, Mr Barry said.

He said there was also agreement that the main Soviet proposal on renouncing the use of force would form part of the final concluding document.

The biggest problem areas are expected to be Nato's insistence on verification and on exchanges of basic military information, and Moscow's desire to bring air and naval activities outside Europe within any agreement.

Some delegates are already looking to the next Reagan-Gorbachov summit, expected next summer, to provide the final impetus which will push the Stockholm talks to a successful conclusion.

Senators press Reagan to negotiate test ban

Washington – A bipartisan group of 46 senators wants President Reagan to resume negotiations with the Soviet Union on a comprehensive, verifiable nuclear test ban agreement early next year (Mohsin Ali writes).

The 1983 nuclear partial test ban treaty, negotiated by the US, Britain and the Soviet Union, bans nuclear explosions in the atmosphere, outer space and underwater, where there is a risk of radioactive pollution. But it does not ban all underground nuclear tests. About 130 nations adhere to it.

The senators, in a letter to President Reagan, said that the Soviet Union's suspension of its underground tests over the past five months "suggests that they may be willing to reach a comprehensive test ban agreement". They ask: "Why not see if we can work something out?"

The signatories included the former Democratic presidential candidates Senators Gary Hart, Alan Cranston and Edward Kennedy.

They noted that the official Soviet moratorium on all nuclear underground testing began in August and is to end on January 1. The Reagan Administration has maintained that adequate international on-site inspection is vital to ensure that neither side cheats.



A fireman helps a shopper away from the scene of yesterday's fire at the Fauchon luxury food store in Paris in which the president of the store company and her daughter died. Madame Josette Guelmino, aged 61, who was physically handicapped, and her daughter Nathalie, aged 32, died in the blaze that started at lunchtime after a gas pipe was ruptured. Two other people were seriously injured, and firemen used ladders to rescue people trapped on the upper floors of the six-storey building. About 120 firemen and 20 vehicles fought the blaze, which was under control in about an hour. The streets were even more crowded than usual because of a Metro strike, hindering firemen. The store was destroyed by a bomb and a subsequent fire in 1977, but reopened five months later.

Court to decide on EEC Budget

From Richard Owen
Brussels

The EEC Council of Ministers yesterday decided to take the European Parliament to the European Court of Justice to have the parliament's "illegal" Budget declared null and void.

The Parliament says the Council's version of the 1986 Budget will not meet the needs of the EEC when it expands to 12 within two weeks.

The Budget – or, more accurately, non-farm spending – is one of the few areas where the Parliament at Strasbourg has real control and the annual Budget row amounts to a power contest with the Council in Brussels. But the tussle has an added edge this year because the extra £358 million voted by the parliament is partly intended to meet the cost of enlargement in January, when Spain and Portugal join.

In the EEC of 10 a majority of six is needed for so unusual a step as recourse to the European Court. Five nations, including Britain, said they favoured this, and the scales were tipped yesterday afternoon when the Belgian Cabinet voted to join them. Denmark later also joined the majority, leaving Italy, Ireland and Greece in a minority against.

The "illegal" Budget was signed this week by M Pierre Pflimlin, the Parliament's President. M Jacques Delors, President of the Commission, tried to avert the crisis by proposing tripartite talks on the Budget with M Pflimlin and M Jacques Poos, the current President of the Council of Ministers and Foreign Minister of Luxembourg.

Commission sources said the Delors initiative was still being pursued despite the council's decision which further complicated a last-minute rush of activity yesterday as the EEC tried to conclude end-of-year business.

This includes fisheries policy, which is also affected by enlargement in 1986 since Spain has a powerful fishing fleet. Fisheries ministers yesterday put the final touches to agreed cod, mackerel and herring quotas after Ireland had lifted the objections it raised at the last fisheries meeting on Wednesday.

Council sources said the proposed quotas for Spain in Hake, blue whiting and horse mackerel were causing problems for France, whose fishing vessels in the past have been involved in violent incidents with Basque fishermen.

Chilean prisoners meet UN official

From A Correspondent
Santiago

The Chilean military Government has for the first time in years, allowed the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Chile, Señor Fernando Volio Jimenez, to enter the country.

From his arrival on December 9 to his departure on Wednesday, Señor Volio met representatives of the Catholic Church, the Chilean Human Rights Commission, relatives of political prisoners who disappeared in the years that followed the 1973 military coup, students unions and the military Government in Santiago, Concepcion, Temuco and Antofagasta.

He also visited several Chilean prisons and spoke to a number of political prisoners, nine of whom ended a 10-day "dry" hunger strike just two days ago, during which they refused to eat or drink.

Doctors called the hunger strike "suicidal", and priests, relatives and union leaders begged them to desist. According to relatives all are still in a serious condition: several are unable to answer even simple questions.

The political prisoners are protesting about conditions which have led to the violent deaths of two of their number in the past three months; the kidnapping and rape of three women who regularly visited them; and the expulsion from Chile of the Honduran wife of a Chilean political prisoner.

Most are involved in lengthy trials that may take longer than the sentence they eventually receive, but few have been released on bail or parole.

During his meeting with the Catholic Church and rights department, Señor Volio observed that police used tear gas and clubs to suppress a demonstration on Human Rights Day, December 10.

He also met Señor Canovas, an appeals court judge whose investigation of the March murders of three communists led to the resignation of a member of Chile's governing military junta in August.

Statistics kept by the Chilean human rights commission indicate that between January and November this year 67 people were killed by police

160 people have been injured during demonstrations. 169 internally exiled, 3,844 Chileans refused permission to enter Chile, 147 tortured, 667 injured and 350 people victims of some kind of harrassment.

Seoul worried as students add to economic woes

From David Watts, Seoul

The new radicalism of student protest coupled with South Korea's economic problems are worrying the Government of President Chun Doo Hwan.

The Government dismisses the student protests on their own as the actions of a radical minority, and therefore insignificant, but acknowledges that the two problems combined are formidable.

The overall level of student protest is probably lower than it was a year ago, but the type of target and the methods chosen over the past two months have been a significant departure.

Occupation of buildings and arson have become a feature of protests, which sometimes appear to echo the Government in protesting against American measures over alleged dumping and legal actions seeking greater access to the Korean market.

Most recently students occupied the American Chamber of Commerce in Seoul and the American cultural centre in the southern city of Kwangju.

Student anti-Americanism is part real, and partly a means of getting at the Chun Government, both for its subservience and its unwillingness to grant freedom of assembly, expression and a free press.

After President Chun returned from the US in the spring, it appeared the Government took the brakes off criticism of America in the controlled media. Newspapers became increasingly critical as trade tensions between the two grew worse.

The students, fed a steady diet of American sins through the media and, distrustful of American intentions, have become more narrowly nationalist. But they also partly blame the United States for the economic plight of young Koreans. Last year more than 35 per cent of 110,000 graduates were unable to get work when they left college. There is no such thing as unemployment benefit, and the stigma of being jobless is strong.

Although the Government says unemployment overall is about 4 per cent, it is growing as thousands of workers return from the Middle East and South-East Asia where Korean construction contracts have been completed.

The Chun Government's tactic of allowing student dissent to focus on America was clearly aimed at drawing attention away from such unpalatable facts. But many Koreans now feel the policy has gone too far and might spill over into other areas.

One government critic said: "The trouble with the Government is that it does not realize that the realities have changed. There are more than 100 members of the Opposition in the Assembly, but there is no means of communication between the President and the people because the media are so tightly controlled.

"What happens in the Assembly has little relevance for ordinary people."

A former government official fears that the anti-American tone is affecting the way students view the North-South issue. The campus radicals now use language about reunifications which sounds similar to that coming from Pyongyang, the North Korean capital.

Some western diplomats believe that the period when radicals won a lot of support, not only from the public but fellow students, is over because their increasingly violent methods are considered excessive and a disgrace to Korea's foreign image.

Only the arrival of spring, a perennial period of campus unrest, will show who is right.

Lange begs to differ on Anzus

From Richard Long
Wellington

The New Zealand Government's discussion paper on defence, released yesterday, acknowledges bluntly that the future of the Anzus treaty is now in question, a view which the Prime Minister, Mr David Lange, admitted differed from his own.

The paper, "The Defence Question", aimed at setting the scene for a public debate on defence in the wake of the dispute with Washington, also appears to question the value of collective security. However Mr Lange challenged this interpretation and emphasized that he considered collective security essential.

The paper comes after the introduction to Parliament last week of legislation banning nuclear armed and powered warships from ports, a move which has all but ended the Anzus alliance linking New Zealand, Australia and the United States.

This move was criticized by three former chiefs of defence staff, who said the Government was pushing the country into an isolated corner.

Mr Lange replied yesterday that each of the former defence chiefs had headed a military structure which was "utterly a client state". But he acknowledged that the discussion paper's views on Anzus conflicted with his own belief that the alliance was sound and would survive. It was possible for a discussion paper, newspaper editorials and retired army chiefs to say that Anzus war in jeopardy, but Mr Lange said: "I do not happen to agree with it."

In one section the discussion paper states: "New Zealand for many years subscribed to the principle of collective security in two world wars, Korea and South-east Asia. There is now a wide feeling that this was done uncritically, at too high a cost to a small, remote country."

Mr Lange said this was in no way a challenge to collective security. "Because your car gets a flat tyre, you do not scrap the whole principle of a motor vehicle," he said.

The paper stressed the importance to New Zealand of Australia, and concluded that it would be inconceivable if mutual interests were not also reflected in defence. But it asks: "Do we accept a role in preserving security across such a large and disparate region as what used to be called Australasia?

While it questions the continued expensive deployment of the New Zealand army battalion in Singapore, Mr Lange emphasized there would be no rapid withdrawal of this force. "It is an identification, not just of New Zealand, but of other western countries, to the security of Singapore and the surrounding countries," he said.

Middle East hope for Soviet Jews

By Nicholas Ashford, Diplomatic Correspondent

Tentative moves towards convening an international conference on the Middle East have raised hopes that such a meeting could be accompanied by a resumption of large-scale emigration of Jews from the Soviet Union.

Although there is little firm evidence that the Kremlin is about to permit large numbers of Jews to leave, there is growing speculation in Jerusalem, Washington, Moscow and Paris that such a move is being considered.

The most recent clue in this complex international political puzzle emerged this week during a visit by M Louis Mermaz, President of the French National Assembly, to Moscow. He said that Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, the Soviet leader, had given him "replies which I consider interesting" when he raised the question of Jewish emigration.

France has offered to provide aircraft to transport Soviet Jews to Israel if Moscow agrees to open its doors.

Moscow's decision may well hinge on what happens in the Middle East, an area where in recent years, it has been unable to play a significant role, except as an arms supplier.

Moscow believes that an international conference of the kind proposed by Jordan and Syria and now accepted in principle by Israel and the US could let it play a role in a Middle East peace settlement that was commensurate with its superpower status.

But Israel has made it clear it would not accept Soviet participation in a conference unless it first resumes diplomatic relations which were severed by Moscow in 1967.

"Moscow regards its Jewish population as a 'currency' which it can bargain with in international diplomacy," commented an Israeli diplomat. "If it thinks it can get something it wants in return, then the Kremlin will let some of its Jews leave."

More than 250,000 Jews were allowed to leave the Soviet Union between 1968 and 1985 although the flow has slowed to a trickle in recent years. There are still almost 650,000 Jews who have invitations to go to Israel (a Soviet condition for granting an exit permit) but who have not been allowed to leave.

There have been reports that Moscow may allow up to 200,000 of them to leave, although some experts believe this figure to be unrealistically high. A more likely initial figure would be between 25,000 and 50,000, with more being allowed out later depending on the political climate.

Another factor that will influence Soviet thinking will be the attitude of the US. At the Geneva summit President Reagan made it clear to Mr Gorbachov that the Soviet Union's human rights record, and in particular its refusal to allow Jews to leave, was preventing an improvement in US–Soviet relations.

Harare air chief leaves

Harare – Air Marshall Azim Daudpota, aged 52, commander of the Zimbabwe Air Force, who was seconded from Pakistan 2½ years ago, is to return home early next month (Jan Raath writes).

He was appointed in July 1983 when the Zimbabwe Air Force lost nearly all its top leadership after a trial of six senior airmen charged with involvement in the sabotage of most of Zimbabwe's jet strike force in July 1982.

Air Vice Marshall Josiah Tungamirai, the deputy commander, has been named as his successor.

Meanwhile, Brigadier Charles Grey, the officer responsible for operations and training army headquarters, who was arrested in September with four other senior officers on charges of assisting anti-Government guerrillas, has appeared before the detention review tribunal.

He was a commander with the four other arrested officers of Zipra, the military wing of Mr Joshua Nkomo's Zapu party during the liberation war.



Miss Nabila Khashoggi, aged 23, a millionairess and daughter of Mr Adnan Khashoggi, the arms dealer, at Bagshot, Surrey, yesterday, where she was practising to be a co-driver in the Paris-Dakar motor rally starting on January 1.

Chess draw despite daring sacrifices

From Raymond Keene, Hilversum

The fourth game of the Gary Kasparov-Jan Timman world chess match was agreed drawn with no further play yesterday.

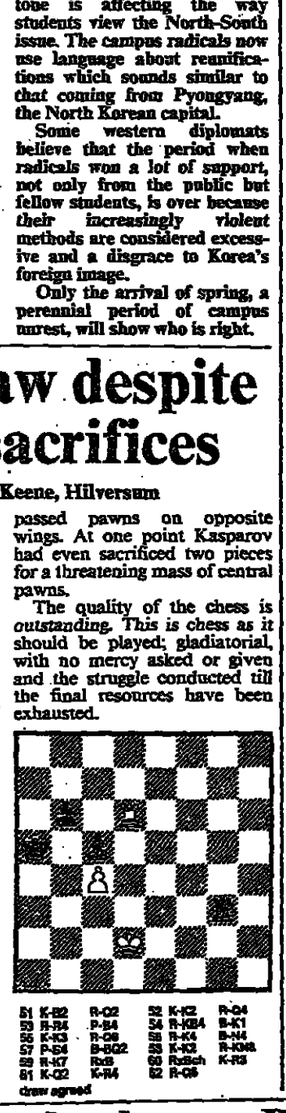
In the adjourned position, Timman has an extra pawn, but one which is useless for winning purposes.

This first draw came after a game of wild complications, featuring daring sacrifices, counter sacrifices and races of passed pawns on opposite wings. At one point Kasparov had even sacrificed two pieces for a threatening mass of central pawns.

The quality of the chess is outstanding. This is chess as it should be played; gladiatorial, with no mercy asked or given and the struggle conducted till the final resources have been exhausted.

White Kasparov.
Black Timman.

1	P-Q4	N-KB3	2	P-QB4	P-K3
3	N-KB3	P-QR3	4	N-B3	P-N5
5	B-N5	Q-N2	6	P-K3	P-KR3
7	B-R4	P-KN4	8	B-N3	N-K5
9	Q-B2	BxNch	10	PxB	N-B4
11	B-Q3	P-KB4	12	P-Q5	N-B4
13	P-KR4	P-N5	14	N-Q4	Q-B3
15	0-0	N(N1)-R3	16	BxKP	NxN
17	BxNP	N-N2	18	B-N5ch	K-Q2
19	P-B3	QR-KB1	20	PxP	Q-K2
21	P-K4	K-B1	22	Q-Q2	N-N1
23	RxRch	RxR	24	QxP	B-B1
25	R-K1	B-K2	26	P-B5	Q-B3
27	PxP	B-R4	28	P-K5	QxB
29	QxQ	BxQ	30	P-K6	N-QB4
31	P-Q7	N-Q6	32	PxN	R-Q1
33	R-K8	B-R4	34	B-K5	RxQP
35	R-R8	B-B2	36	B-N1	RxP
37	B-K5	BxRP	38	P-R5	N-B2
39	P-N4	B-B5	40	P-N5	B-B4
41	P-N6	R-Q4	42	B-B4	R-KB4
43	R-N8	P-R5	44	R-R7	B-B4
45	P-R6	P-R6	46	R-K7	P-R7
47	R-K1	B-Q6	48	P-R7	R-KR4
49	R-R1	BxP	50	RxP	RxP



51	K-B2	R-Q2	52	K-K2	R-Q4
53	R-R4	P-B4	54	R-KB4	R-K1
55	K-K3	R-Q8	56	R-K4	B-N4
57	P-B6	B-B2ch	58	K-K3	R-K8ch
59	R-K7	RxB	60	RxBch	K-R3
61	K-Q2	K-N4	62	R-Q8	

draw agreed

Minister hits back over Basque death

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

Señor José Barrionuevo, Spain's controversial Interior Minister, responded to calls for his resignation in Parliament yesterday by accusing critics of politically manipulating the death of a Basque nationalist in police custody last month.

At a tense session of the interior committee of the Lower House, held after several days of street protests in the Basque region, the minister demanded that MPs "respect the presumption of innocence" of the paramilitary Civil Guards who had detained Mikel Zabalza on suspicion of being a collaborator of ETA, the Basque terrorist organization.

A Spanish radio station yesterday quoted two Cabinet colleagues as saying Señor Barrionuevo should resign.

The minister yesterday described Zabalza's death as a "lamentable accident". All the investigations corroborated the Civil Guard version that Zabalza had escaped while being taken to a suspected ETA arms cache near the River Didassoa.

His body was found floating, still handcuffed, in the river last Sunday, 19 days after being taken by Civil Guards from his San Sebastian home for interrogation. The round-up came one day after suspected ETA gunmen killed a Civil Guard in the city.

MPs protested that Señor Barrionuevo, making his first detailed statement on the case, failed to answer any of the charges levelled earlier this week by Spain's Ombudsman, Señor Joaquim Ruiz Jimenez, that serious irregularities had been committed during the detention.

Señor Juan Bandres, the San Sebastian MP, challenged the minister on the Ombudsman's revelation that Spanish police put hoods over the heads of detainees during interrogation. "How would you like us to question you hooded?", he said.

Pakistan death sentences on eve of civil law

Islamabad – More than 60 people have been sentenced to death or given lengthy jail sentences in Sind only 10 days before the promised withdrawal after eight-and-a-half years of martial law in Pakistan (Hasan Akhtar writes).

The martial law authorities are reported to have announced the sentences against people ignoring directives to appear before special military courts. The nature of crimes for which the absconders are wanted is not known, but it is generally believed they were sought in connection with August 1983 anti-regime disturbances in Sind.

Many martial law convictions and sentences have been reported in recent days, giving the impression that martial law authorities are expecting trials before the civil rule is enforced.

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Senior officers arrested

Nigeria coup plotters foiled

By Our Foreign Staff

Nigeria said yesterday an unspecified number of military officers had been arrested for plotting the "violent overthrow" of the Government.

Major-General Domkat Bali, the Defence Minister said in Lagos that the arrested officers, "who are from all the services, were recruiting followers and concluding plans for the violent overthrow of the Government."

The minister did not identify any of the officers but high-ranking military sources in Lagos said three senior generals and several top Air Force officers were among those held.

It is the first publicly acknowledged plot against the Government of Major-General Ibrahim Babangida since he came to power in a coup on August 27.

Diplomats in the Nigerian capital said it appeared a court martial was already sitting in the city to try the plotters and that punishment would be swift.

General Bali, who is also military chief of staff, said the accused officers were critical of the Government's accent on human rights, the involvement of young officers in public office and the decision last week not to seek a $2.5 billion (£1.8 billion) loan from the International Monetary Fund.

Reading from a prepared statement, he said the suspects "claimed that a military government had no business in pursuing an open-door policy nor upholding fundamental human rights.

"The same unscrupulous individuals had complained that they could not see any reason why the Government should reject the IMF loan and instead cut the salaries of the military, since they claim the military was not responsible for the collapse of the economy."

Some Western diplomats in Lagos said they had been told the coup attempt took place in northern Nigeria on Wednesday.

But there had been rumours of an attempted coup since Sunday when residents and diplomats saw tanks on a bridge in Lagos.

Military sources said several of the officers held came from the command and staff school in Jaji, a military academy in the north attended by virtually all Nigeria's senior officers.

The diplomats speculated that the location of the attempt signaled a flaring of dissidence from the once-dominant Hausa-Ulani elite which recently has criticized the Babangida regime for appointing only two of its members to the 28-man Armed Forces Ruling Council.

General Babangida came to power on Augut 27 in a coup which ousted the regime of Major-General Muhammadu Buhari, who came from the northern Hausa-Fulani elite, as did the group which dominated the country under the previous civilian government.

The Hausa-Fulanis are sometimes called the Kaduna Mafia, after the town of Kaduna in northern Nigeria.

General Babangida reacid to the Hausa-Fulani criticism by calling on the military to be on the alert for internal subversion. In an address to the armed forces, he said: "You must expect that we have enemies who will not relent in their futile efforts to destabilize this nation."

He also has faced criticism from labour leaders who have opposed his strict austerity measures. When he took power there were reports that he acted to stem a coup led by radical junior officers.

However the general appears to be at the height of his public popularity, especially since he announced the decision to discontinue negotiatins with the IMF started in 1983. The proposed loan was highly unpopular and the move triggered a wave of enthusiastic support throughout the conry.

The claim by the alleged coup plotters that a military government had no business upholding human rights is unlikely to go down well with Nigerians who see General Babangida as a humane leader, against the perceived high-handedness of ousted Buhari Government.

The military Government's release of hundreds of people detained under Buhari and a review of convictions have been widely hailed.



Mr Terry Waite checking in at Heathrow airport yesterday for his flight to Beirut

Waite urges kidnappers to free all hostages

From Robert Fisk
Beirut

"Escorted" by Shia Muslim gunmen from the Amal militia, Mr Terry Waite, the Archbishop of Canterbury's special envoy, travelled from Beirut airport to a press conference in the city last night and called upon kidnappers in Lebanon to release all their hostages – American, French, Italian, British and Lebanese – at Christmas.

If his message seemed a trifle over-optimistic, he did concede that he was bringing what he thought were "just and fair" proposals to the captors of the four Americans held hostage in Lebanon.

Mr Waite's latest trip to Beirut was accompanied by the sort of chaos which Lebanon usually manages to produce on such occasions. While gunmen pushed and screamed at reporters in the Summerland Hotel, Mr Waite walked calmly, if rather bemused, into the hotel lobby, shaking hands with the militiamen and thanking them publicly, and pointedly, for the way they had brought him from the airport "with their usual charm and efficiency".

Mr Waite said he hoped the spirit of Christmas would prevail and that the kidnappers would be influenced by the religious festival. He seemed clearly optimistic about his own chances of persuading the Americans' captors to release their prisoners, although he admitted that the situation remained "very complicated".

Israeli spy row lingers after US questioning

From Ian Murray
Jerusalem

The diplomatic row over an American accused of spying for Israel continues, although the legal inquiry into the affair has ended.

All but the leader of seven American investigators have left Israel officially "satisfied" with evidence against the spy suspect, Mr Jonathan Pollard, given by Israeli intelligence officers.

But Mr Abraham Safaer, the legal adviser to the US State Department, is still in Israel, officially "tying up loose ends". Unofficially, he has been forced to stay because of serious difficulties over the wording of a final joint statement promised by Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State.

The investigation team flew to Israel at US insistence at the end of last week. The visit was agreed during a midnight telephone call between Mr Shultz and the Israeli Prime Minister, Mr Shimon Peres. The call came after a week in which the State Department publicly accused Israel of failing to cooperate in the legal inquiry necessary to bring proper charges against Mr Pollard.

The lack of cooperation was said to include flying home two "diplomats" believed to have been Mr Pollard's American contacts. Israel had also refused to give a categoric assurance that it will return any documents obtained through Mr Pollard.

Mr Peres, whose government at first tended to dismiss the importance of the affair, was strongly advised by leaders of American Jews that failure to cooperate was endangering Israel's privileged relationship with the US. Mr Shultz insisted that Israel should allow the legal inquiry full access to all necessary officials and documents if mutual trust was to be restored.

Mr Peres, aware that Israel's economy relies on American aid of more than $3 billion (£2 billion) a year and that its security relies on access to American military technology, caved in.

Israeli intelligence was at the same time far from happy about the Government's promise of full cooperation. It insisted that if its officers gave evidence they would only answer questions about the Pollard affair. They refused to give evidence under oath, although a guarantee was given that they would tell the truth.

There was, nevertheless, extreme reluctance to supply evidence that would incriminate a man said to have worked for them.

Throughout the inquiry, as throughout the entire affair, strict secrecy has been observed. Israeli

Iraq pleads with UN to prevent invasion

Bahrain (Reuter) – Iraq asked the United Nations to help to stop an anticipated Iranian offensive in the five-year Gulf war, while Iran's President Khamenie said there could be no peace with the present Iraqi leaders.

In a message to the UN Secretary-General and the president of the Security Council, the Iraqi Foreign Minister, Mr Tareq Aziz, said Iran was planning "a massive offensive with the aim of seizing Iraqi territory and threatening Iraq's sovereignty".

The Iraqi Air Force kept up its pressure on Iranian economic targets with another attack on the Kharg Island oil terminal.

Drunks attack charity jogger

Mr Henry Weston from Denmead, near Portsmouth, who has jogged 11,000 miles to raise money for the World Wildlife Fund, was beaten up by a gang of drunks as he left Melbourne on the final leg of his 3,000-mile trek across Australia.

The 23-year-old security consultant, who has been through 20 countries, was forced to postpone his run to Sydney after suffering a bruised hip. Seven people were arrested.

Finger tip-off traps muggers

Hong Kong (Reuter) – A man walked into a police station here, reported an attempted mugging and handed over his evidence, a finger tip, which he said he had bitten off one of his attackers.

After seeking hospital treatment for a shortened index finger, a man was detained and another later arrested.

Bhopal verdict

Delhi (AP) – The Indian Government formally ruled out sabotage in last year's Bhopal gas leak which killed 2,000 people, saying design flaws and inadequate safety controls by Union Carbide Corporation led to the world's worst industrial disaster.

Harare arrests

Harare – Mr Wiridzayi Nguruve, the former Zimbabwe Commissioner of Police, and his Deputy, Mr Govati Mhora, were arrested hours after Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, denounced them for excessive corruption.

Cyprus manhunt

Nicosia (Reuter) – Cypriot police named a third man, in addition to two already held, who is wanted for questioning about Wednesday's attempt to smuggle arms hidden in wine bottles on board a Swiss airliner.

Blast kills five

Bombay (Reuter) – An explosion killed five workers and injured 45 at an industrial alcohol distillery in central India.

Whaling ban

Brasilia (AP). – President Sarney banned whale hunting off the Brazilian coast for five years from January 1, saying he had been touched by letters from thousands of children.

Aids in Kenya

Geneva (Reuter) – Kenya has reported 10 cases of Aids, the first black African state officially to confirm the existence of the disease, the World Health Organization said.

Fan's sacrifice

Cairo (Reuter). – A fan of Cairo's National football club died from burns after setting himself ablaze when a penalty was awarded to a rival team.

Martial law comes nearer for South Africans

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

South Africa has moved nearer to martial law by extending powers normally exercised by the police to the South African Defence Force.

Under regulations promulgated in the Government gazette, troops now have the right to search people, seize articles and in some cases make arrests and disperse crowds in situations of unrest.

The new measures, though avilable under an amendment to the Defence Act since 1984, have not been invoked before. Human rights lawyers here described their use as "a manifestation of panic" and an admission that control could no longer be maintained by "accepted law enforcement methods and agencies."

Troops have been used for the past year to reinforce the police presence in South Africa's turbulent black townships, but usually in a back-up capacity, guarding key roads or cordoning off riot areas.

Meanwhile, another 14 organizers of black consumer boycotts of white-owned shops in the Johannesburg region are reported to have been arrested, bringing to 21 the number detained since the end of last week.

The boycotts have reduced Christmas turnover by as much as 50 per cent in many shops dependent on black custom, but they have also been marred by the thuggery inflicted by black youths on fellow-blacks who have defied the boycott.

Twp cameramen working for World Television News, Mr Roger Lucey and Mr Patrick Lucey, have appeared in court and been charged with inciting public violence. They were released on bail of 100 rand (£27) each, and the case was postponed until February 4.

● WINDHOEK: Two children were killed on Thursday while examining a Soviet-made landmine they found buried in a soccer field in northern Namibia, the South West Africa Territory Force reported yesterday (Reuter reports).

● DUBLIN: Ireland is expected to impose a selective ban on the import of goods from South Africa (the Press Association reports).

Official sources in Dublin confirmed yesterday that the ban will be authorized if an investigation initiated by the Government "points to the abuse of prison labour" in South Africa. The directive would affect fruit and vegetable imports from the end of March.

● COPENHAGEN: Danish trade unions will lift a boycott of trade with South Africa on Monday because their action has been overtaken by a parliamentary vote, a trades union official said yesterday (Reuter reports).

The unions began boycotting imports from and exports to South Africa in November. The action was due to continue until the end of January, but last week the Opposition majority in Parliament passed a resolution urging the Government to legislate next year for an end to all trade with South Africa.

Surrogate mother keeps baby

From Diana Geddes
Paris

A surrogate mother who accepted 25,000 francs (£2,300) from a sterile couple to bear their child has decided to keep both the baby and the money. The couple have immediately placed an order for a baby with another surrogate.

Dr Sacha Geller, who organized the artificial insemination of the surrogate mother, said: "I've been had. I did not study the candidate sufficiently before proposing her to the couple.

When she was six months pregnant, she had suddenly informed the couple that she intended to keep the child, now aged four months. "It is her absolute right to keep the child, but if she had been honest she would have given back the 25,000 francs paid to her in advance by the couple," Dr Geller commented.

Kampala soldiers go on rampage

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi

Despite the peace agreement signed in Nairobi this week, unruly soldiers have launched a new wave of looting, robbery and killing in Kampala, the Ugandan capital.

Residents yesterday said they had some of the heaviest gunfire ever heard in the city throughout the night. At least three civilians were killed – shot by troops who raided and looted a grocery-cum-bar close to the city centre.

Many other incidents of soldiers shooting and looting housed and shops were reported. In some cases, they loaded the loot into stolen cars and Land Rovers – including police vehicles.

Under the peace agreement between the ruling Military Council and the National Resistance Army (NRA) guerrillas, Kampala is to become a non-military zone, with all troops moved out of the city. It appears that the troops are either ignoring orders to return to barracks, or are indulging in a final looting spree before anyone can bring them under control.

On Thursday, the Ugandan head of state, General Tito Okello, told a rally attended by about 100,000 people in Kampala that Ugandans were tired of shooting.

General Okello is on tour of eastern and northern Uganda, addressing similar rallies each day. But so far there is no sign of any concrete moves to implement the peace agreement, although fighting between the army and the NRA has ceased in some areas.

The newspaper *Munno* reported that 30 civilians were killed in Butambala county, 30 miles south-west of Kampala, when soldiers looted and robbed shops and homes.

Pretoria's Angola raid

Objective may be help for Unita

By Richard Dowden

Diplomats speculated yesterday that the current South African incursion into Angola may be aimed less at attacking Swapo guerrilla bases than at distracting government attention from the rebel United movement.

There has been a recent build-up of Angolan forces backed by Cubans around Cazombo and Cuito Cunavale and the sources believed that this may be in preparation for another attack on Unita's stronghold in the south-east.

Western intelligence sources have estimated that, if attacked again in force, Unita could be driven out of its base at Jamba, or even out of Angola altogether.

In September Unita suffered heavy casualties when a two-prong attack drove through southern Angola towards Jamba, and was only saved by a South African Air Force strike which stopped a government armoured column at Mavinga.

It is though unlikely that Unita could survive another attack backed by MiG 23s and Mi24 helicopter gunships, unless it obtains armour-piercing and mobile anti-aircraft weapons.

The Luanda Government was expected to mount a second attack at the end of the rainy season in March, but the current build-up suggests that it wants to attack Unita now.

The South African move cuts across plans for another meeting between US State Department officials and the Angolans, which was due before the end of the year.

Mr Chester Crocker, the Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, met Angolan officials in Luanda at the end of November for the first time in several months, but a follow-up is not now expected until the New Year.

The US has been trying to act as mediator to secure Namibian independence in exchange for the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola.

This linked policy, created and pursued by Mr Crocker, has been threatened recently by pressure on the US Administration to give aid to Unita.

According to one report, the decision to give up to $27 million in lethal and non-lethal aid to Unita was taken in November, against the wishes of the State Department.

Mr Crocker, however, was able to persuade the administration to defer delivery of the aid until January, giving him time to secure another meeting.

It is the thought that Unita might soon be in possession of US weaponry which may have prompted the Angolans to mount their attack early.

Supporters of Unita in America point to the military hardware, valued at $2 billion, they say has been sent to Angola by the Soviet Union in the past 18 months.

This simple anti-Communist rhetoric clearly appealed to Mr Reagan. But it was nevertheless a surprise when he casually announced at a press conference in Geneva in November that the Administration favoured giving covert aid to Unita.

Shultz anger shows split on lie tests

From Mohsin Ali
Washington

A split is apparent in the Reagan Administration over lie detector tests, with a public statement by Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, expressing "grave reservations" about them, and saying he would resign the minute he was told he was not trusted.

Mr Shultz, who was meeting President Reagan yesterday, was reported to have voiced strong opposition within the Administration to President Reagan's order of November 1 that US officials with access to sensitive and secret intelligence information should have polygraph tests.

Mr Shultz's highly unusual and emotional dissent at a press conference on Thursday has added a serious new element to the extensive controversy about the directive.

The White House spokesman had earlier said that the polygraph test would be conducted "from senior levels on down" under the order, which he assumed might apply to Cabinet members.

After Mr Shultz's remarks, the Central Intelligence Agency said that there was an acute need to extend "selective" and "careful" use of polygraphs to government users of secret information, such as the State and Defence Departments.

Polygraphs have been used extensively and for some time to screen employees of the CIA and the top-secret National Security Agency. In contrast, they have been used only as a selective and "voluntary" investigative tool at the State Department.

When questioned if he would take one if asked, Mr Shultz replied: "... the minute in this government I am told that I'm not trusted is the day that I leave."



Mr George Shultz: grave personal reservations

Two Britons ordered out of India

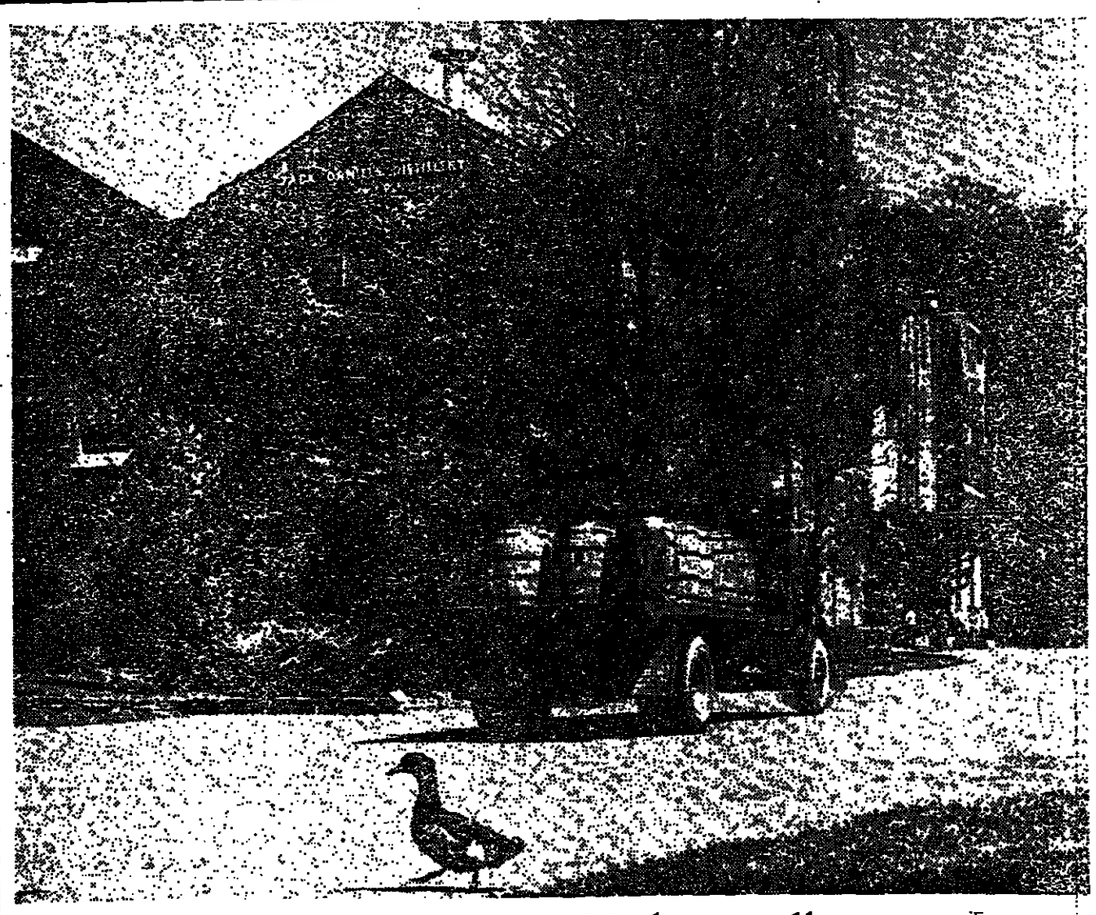
From Michael Hamlyn
Delhi

Two British missionaries have been ordered to leave India as the result of an apparent crackdown on foreigners who may be suspected of undertaking subversive activities against the country's national interest.

The moves against missionaries highlight the ambivalent attitude of Indian society towards Christian conversions at a time when the country is preparing for the first official visit by the Pope.

The British High Commission in Delhi is unwilling for publicity to be given to the two, because they are hoping to have the decision reversed, but it is understood that they are a school headmaster and his doctor wife, who have been living and working in the sensitive border state of Kashmire for the past 25 years.

They are not the first missionaries to come under the threat of expulsion recently. Six religious workers in Madhya Pradesh were recently ordered out. They were three Americans, two Belgians and a Dutch citizen, but the central Government has reveresed the decision, and the six have been given visas for another 12 months.



TWO THINGS HAVE PUT the small town of Lynchburg, Tennessee on the map. One is the distillery you're looking at, the oldest registered distillery in America. The other is the unique whiskey that's produced here, Jack Daniel's. It's always been distilled here, and only ever here. And it's been a way of life for over 100 years. So no wonder people call it good ol' Tennessee sippin' whiskey.



DISTILLED AND BOTTLED BY JACK DANIEL DISTILLERY, LYNCHBURG (POPULATION 361), TENNESSEE, USA. EST. & REGD. IN 1866.
IF YOU'D LIKE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT OUR UNIQUE WHISKEY, WRITE TO US FOR A FREE BOOKLET.

SPORTING DIARY

Simon Barnes

Sculduggery at Henley

Although Henley Royal Regatta will expand next year from four to five days, the organizers say they still cannot find room for women's events of any kind. They have previously pleaded lack of time; with the extra day the more likely reason becomes apparent – old-fashioned prejudice. A women's sculling event was held in 1981 and 1982 but was then abandoned. Yet women's rowing has featured in the Olympics since 1976 and will be included in the Commonwealth Games next summer. The 1986 *world rowing championships, to be* held in Nottingham, will also feature women's events.

The skill and the muscle are certainly there. In fact, Britain's only gold medal at last year's world championships was won by the women's lightweight double-scullers Beryl Crockford (née Mitchell) and Lynn Clark. "Women's rowing has improved dramatically despite all the opposition," says Mrs Crockford. "I know that I could beat some of the *men* who entered the Diamond Sculls last year." Henley entries have doubled over the past 25 years. Yet room still cannot be found for rowers of the excellence of Mrs Crockford and Co. It's enough to make them choke on their Pimm's.

Man of steel

Cruiserweight boxer Craig Bodzianowski lost half his right leg in a motorbike accident more than a year ago, but made a comeback last week by knocking out his opponent in an eight-round professional bout sanctioned by the Illinois Boxing Commission. *Bodzianowski, who is* 24, fought wearing an artificial foot and leg that attaches below the knee. He said: "Most people reckon I've had a misfortune. But this guy is going to turn that misfortune into a fortune."

For the record

Followers of Thanet United of the Southern League – formerly Margate – are certainly dedicated. It has a *number of supporters* dotted all over the place who cannot always get to matches. Now a number of them have banded together and, whenever one can attend a match, he tape-records his own running commentary and posts a copy to his friends.

To the death . . .

I have received further acid correspondence on the great Tiddlywinks Controversy. All the traditions of rivalry between the sporting men of Oxford and Cambridge are summed up in this deadly serious matter. Cambridge University Toddlywinks Club claims to be the only sporting body never to have been defeated by Oxford. Oxford said: Hang on, we won the inaugural match in 1958. Now a former Cambridge tiddlywinks president, Stewart Sage, tells me this did not count because it was an experimental match before final rules had been formulated. Furthermore, he adds that a one-off challenge match was held between the universities in 1946, so it was *not even the inaugural fixture. As a* further point, Oxford and Cambridge even disagreed about the spelling of the word tiddlywinks – the latter version being Cambridge's, and accepted, rather traitoriously, by the *Oxford English Dictionary*, in preference to the Oxford version which includes an "e". I wait with bated breath for the next instalment of the controversy.

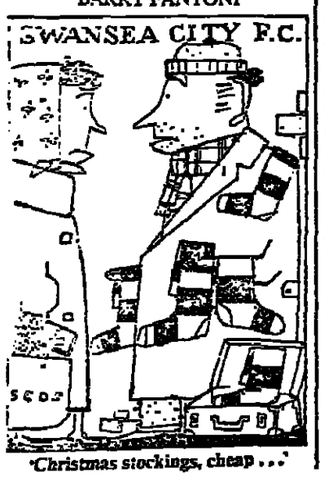
Checked

Henri Leconte won the New South Wales Open tennis tournament last Sunday, sprinted through the formalities and sped by chauffeur-driven car to the airport, where he opened the envelope containing his cheque. It should have been for A$29,308.22c, but he had inadvertently been given the runner's-up cheque for a mere A$14,904.11c. He leapt back into the car and returned to the court, just catching his *vanquished opponent, Kelly Evernden* of New Zealand, who had the big one. Leconte missed his plane, but reckons it was worth it.

Howdah do

Ringo Starr, who used to play for some pop group or other, represented Cartier jewellers at the fourth world elephant polo championship in Nepal last weekend. "I think I've done excellent", he said. *The tournament* was won by Tiger Tops Tuskers, who defeated the King Mahendra Trust for Nature Conservation 1–0 *in* the final. After Ringo, the sport hopes for an even greater accolade: it has applied for Olympic recognition.

BARRY FANTONI



'Christmas stockings, cheap . . .'

A message of love for all our neighbours

by A. H. Halsey

We shall not know for some time whether the report of the Archbishop of Canterbury's Commission on Urban Priority Areas is worth reading; for this government has guaranteed feverish discussion of it by a premature, unlettered repudiation of its authenticity.

Go back to Moscow or the Eucharist were the difficult-to-reconcile twin shouts of the devotees and dignitaries of that quasi-religion – the old economic liberalism or the new conservatism – which has, for the time being, evangelized the Tory Party. Come Easter, cooler *counsel* may emerge from those who find time to read 400 pages of dense description and complex argument.

Meanwhile the "media reception" has raised a huge preliminary question. Should the church intervene in politics? It is, of course, an odd question when *applied to an* established church. The Bench of 44 bishops is built as anciently into our political constitution as is the monarchy or the *Commons*. The logic of separate spheres must entail disestablishment.

Will the curious conservatism of *current fashion* now add the expulsion of the bishops to its party programme? Probably not. Both the constitution and the Church of *England* have shown themselves over hundreds of years to be adept at evading logical conclusions. The state has avoided both autocracy and democracy. The church has steered adroitly between Rome and Nonconformism. In practice the Church of England is established only in theory. But the question is *more serious.*

It is not whether organized Christianity should be involved in secular action. It is and always was. The issue is whether the church's involvement with politics is for better or for worse. Clerics are discomforted in the knowledge that millions have been killed or maimed in the name of Christ. The premier objection to political involvement is that the ultimate political act is to break the Fifth Commandment – thou *shalt not kill.*

A second argument against political activism is that where the secular powers permit religious observance the believer is free to seek salvation in religious devotion. He or she should render unto Caesar those secondary things that are his, but direct a primary life to God. The early Christians were enjoined to obey a pagan state imposed harshly on a colonial people. Only where the state claims all the power and the glory, denying any space to the religious life, can its legitimacy be called in question on Christian grounds.

Third is the argument from futility. The Christian era is over. The Anglican electoral rolls number but one-and-a-half milllion and those mostly suburban elderly women. The social gospel of the Good Samaritan, the interests of the weak, the sick and the deprived, can be carried effectively only by political parties backing claims for justice and fairness with electoral strength.

And finally, as if these three were not enough, columnists in *The Times* say that we have distorted the Christian message and ignored alternative interpretations of biblical sources in "taking thought for the poor".

The simple and compelling answer to all four objections has already been given by the Catholic Archbishop of Liverpool. The commandment of our Lord is to concern myself not only with the love of Himself but with the love of my neighbour. And the love of my neighbour has to take into consideration his material as well as his *spiritual well-being. If his material* well-being is in threat, then that is my concern. Faced with the miseries of the urban priority areas, and in Protestant voice, we commissioners had to say "I can do no other".

To "love thy neighbour as thyself" more than answers the second objection. It obliges the *Christian not only* to resist religious persecution but implies that the more developed the state the more the Christian is required to take an *active political interest.* In medieval Christendom the ecclesiastical and political powers were separated symbolically by mitre and sword; but the division was understood to mean that the Church thereby became the major agent of succour to the halt and the lame.

Unless we are to assume clerical error, the fact that the modern social order has transferred welfare functions from church to state only enhances Christian responsibility for ethical politics. How on earth, as distinct from in heaven, David Hart (this page, December 9), can so radically divorce the soul from the body is a theological puzzle for him to settle with Donald Cupitt or Anthony Harvey.

For ordinary occupants of the pews, *Robert Louis Stevenson's* story is germane. A man met a lad weeping. "What do you weep for?" he asked. "I am weeping for my sins", said the lad. "You must have little to do," said the man. The next day they met again. Again the lad was weeping. "Why do you weep now?" asked the man. "I am weeping because I have nothing to eat," said the lad. "I thought it would come to that," said the man.

The objection to political involvement from *futility* carries more practical weight. But it can be exaggerated. The social ethic of Christianity reaches back to the Old Testament and has lived with individualist salvation in constructive tension down the ages. I at one point tried to persuade my fellow commissioners that St Thomas More's *Utopia* was the firstRuncie/O'Brien report on urban priority areas – a challenge to church and state for the reform of London at the beginning of the capitalist era. They wisely preferred to focus on more recent Christian social reformers – on F. D. Maurice, Lord Shaftesbury, Octavia Hill, William Temple and R. H. Tawney, whose prosaic acceptance of the Sermon on the Mount gives us so shattering a political critique of profane society. There is here a moral tradition which informs the noblest aspirations of all the liberal-democratic political parties.

Moreover, membership of churches as measured by bodies in pews greatly understates the nation's moral outlook and commitment. Survey data show, compared with other countries, that the British are unchurchly – that is, they pay less attention to those of the Ten Commandments which have religious rather than moral significance. But with respect to honouring parents and deploring murder, theft, lust and envy, the British outdo the Scandinavians, Northern Europeans and Latins in their declaration of virtue. The ethical influence of Christian tradition still possesses them; Christian altruism can still inspire the aims of political parties.

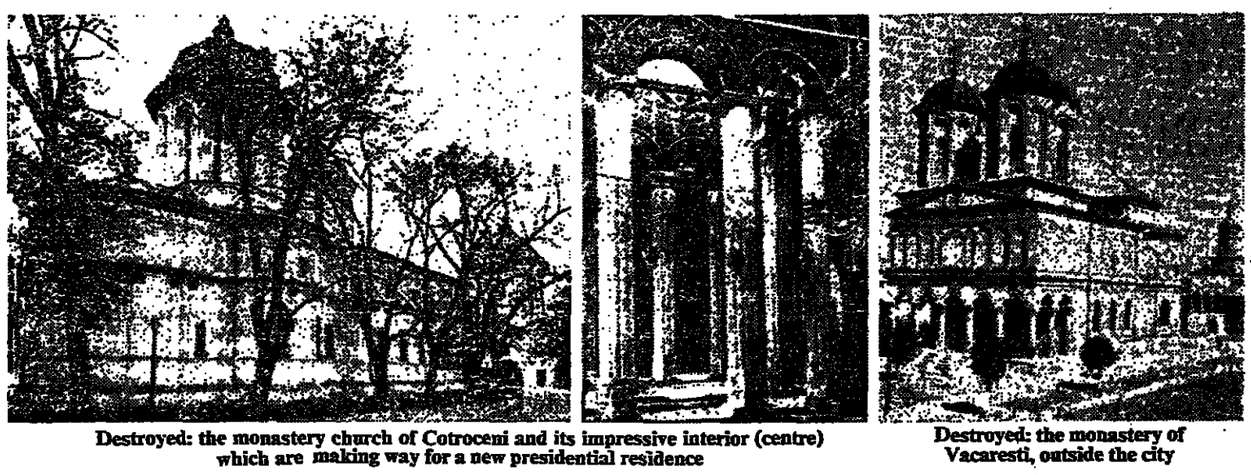
Finally, however, the objection of misdirected energy must be rebutted. David Anderson writes in *The Times* that our report "rushes over the importance of a wealth-creating economy". Rather is it that we hold to a Christian conception of wealth which includes and values the work of the nurse, the teacher and the public services but which he regards as unproductive.

David Hart tells us in defence of the government policies we criticize that they are based on belief that "if the rich get richer the poor will also get richer". He has failed to grasp *that our belief (that the poor* have become poorer as the rich have become richer) is taken directly from the government's own statistics. Without accurate political arithmetic, moral calculus is vain.

Professor A H Halsey, director of the Department of Social and Administrative Studies at the University of Oxford, served on the Archbishop's Commission on Urban Priority Areas.

Richard Bassett on the destruction of old Bucharest

Victims of the new vandalism



Destroyed: the monastery church of Cotroceni and its impressive interior (centre) which are making way for a new presidential residence

Destroyed: the monastery of Vacaresti, outside the city

Bucharest

While architects in other European capitals feel dogged at every turn by conservationists, Bucharest today offers almost unlimited scope for building activity – and for demolition.

In the last year, one tenth of Bucharest, an area equivalent to the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea with a few stretches of Pimlico thrown in, has been razed. Not even one 19th-century lamppost has survived in what was the most picturesque quarter of the so-called Paris of the Balkans.

The architectural treasures detonated and bulldozed included the Vacaresti Monastery, the second largest Orthodox monastery in south-eastern Europe after Mt Athos. On Palm Sunday the Spireia Church was dynamited along with the 18th-century monastery of Prince Michael the Brave. Fourteen other ecclesiastical structures, including the tomb of Prince Sherban Cantacuzino, to whom is attributed the printing of the first translation of the Bible into Romanian, have also been destroyed. As the importing of Bibles into Romania is a criminal offence, this last act of vandalism must have afforded particular pleasure to the authorities. In London, all these buildings would have been Grade One listed by the Department of the Environment.

As well as these, about 9,300 houses, many dating from the late 18th century, have been demolished. South of the Calea Victoreisi, the once intimate network of 70 small winding roads is now one large building site.

Rising from the mud are the first blocks of flats which will *march* along a great avenue called, unsurprisingly, the Boulevard of the Victory of Socialism.

It might be imagined that architects, at least, would be delighted at a chance to create a vast area in one uniform architectural style. Had not Wren and Nash, to say nothing of Albert Speer, dreamt of this? Is there not lurking in every architect a taste for precisely that megalomania which Nicholai Ceaucescu's *rule characterizes*?

Unfortunately, designing for Ceaucescu is not easy. Like the Venetian Doge who imprisoned Sansovino when his great library fell down in the 16th century, he is a demanding patron, though unlike those who commissioned the great buildings of Renaissance Venice, he has a number of characteristics which would frustrate the most gifted architect. For a start, he does not understand architectural drawings. Dramatic elevations, sections, bird's-eye views in pen and ink – all are rejected after a cursory glance. The architects are told instead to build models, but after they have lavished weeks of effort on immaculate models, the word filters down that Ceaucescu finds these difficult to understand; could they not just put up some examples?

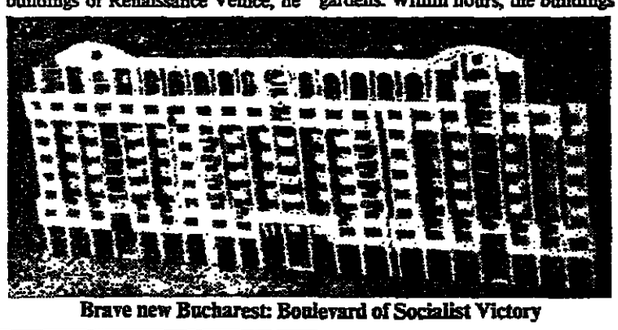
Even then the architects' problems are not over. Three blocks of *flats were completed two months* ago near the site of the Republic Palace, the building which, when completed, will be the climax of the boulevard. Mrs Ceaucescu, inspecting them with her husband, observed that the inhabitants would be able to look into the palace's gardens. Within hours, the buildings were razed and are now being rebuilt 80 yards further north.

Detailing is rarely left to the architects. Ceaucescu and his wife supervise these points with particular interest, ordering new balconies here, more arches there. Since he added a storey of arches to the completely arch-free National Theatre two years ago, arches are known to find favour with him. He also has strong dislikes; two weeks ago he dismissed an architect who dared to suggest that his particular block of flats might have been improved by the introduction of an *Ionic frieze into the entablature.*

Another architect, dismissed for advancing the more abstract stylistic criteria of Le Corbusier, confided that architects in Bucharest are only "technicians", producing buildings over whose style and form they have little control. The result is heavy and confused, making even the Stalinist architecture of the Piata Scintea seem light relief in comparison.

It must be admitted that there is nothing new in this attempt to *stamp indelibly the character of* Romania's leader on Bucharest's cityscape. Readers of Olivia Manning's *Balkan Trilogy* will recall how the square in front of the Athenee Palace Hotel was constantly littered with columns and fragments of buildings demolished to make way for King Carol's new palace.

Sadly for Bucharest, unless there is a benevolent earthquake the architecture of the Ceaucescu era will, like King Carol's palace, outlive its patron for years to come.



Brave new Bucharest: Boulevard of Socialist Victory

The book that shook an entire nation

Bonn

Readers who saw my Letter from Bonn on October 24 may have been wondering what the effect, if any, has been of the new book which the letter was about: the work of a *German writer* who disguised himself as "Ali" in order to find out how the West Germans treat their Turkish "guest-workers".

So far as it is possible to judge there has been a kind of mass remorse. The book has led *Der Spicgel's* non-fiction best-seller list for over a month, having sold a million copies in its first six weeks. The author, Günther Wallraff, has already been able to give a million marks of his royalties to a Turkish cause. The firm of Thyssen, alleged to have waived safety regulations at its Duisburg steelworks to get dangerous work done more cheaply by Turks, is paying for Turks to have rest cures, but is none the less under investigation by the state prosecutor.

So too is the book's now notorious, pseudonymously named Herr "Adler", a hirer-out of Turkish labour most of whose wages he pocketed. (*In* the book's *most* haunting scene, a German friend of Wallraff poses as someone seeking eight Turks to work in part of a nuclear plant where they are certain to be exposed to serious radiation. "No problem," says "Adler", in the secretly recorded conversation.)

He has been revealed as a former town councillor once considered by a North German constituency as a parliamentary candidate. To the *amusement of students of the way* some political parties claim to be kinder than others, it was as a Social Democratic MP at that.

The mayor of Duisburg has called some of "Ali's" Turkish workmates together to see if he could help. The house in the town where "Ali" had a *tiny flat is being turned by the* council into a centre for legal and social security advice to Turks.

The book is read on trains and discussed in pubs. "It *is reaching far* beyond the ranks of educated and politically aware readers to find a chord in a wider audience," the *Stuttgarter Zeitung wrote.* Wallraff says that, because of his book, "Turkish" jokes, many of which are old anti-semitic jokes reworked, are no longer so acceptable among German workers. There is talk that people are going out of their way to be agreeable to Turks. Something *which – if the Germans are doing it* with their legendary thoroughness – the Turks might find almost as difficult to cope with as the original exploitation.

Wallraff may well have exaggerated the average Turk's plight in West Germany. He has the *agent provocateur air of the leftish* investigative journalist. An earlier book he wrote about his experiences while working for the right-wing, *mass-circulation daily Bild (in order* to expose its excesses) provoked an effective book in reply from *Bild* which showed Wallraff to have been guilty of excesses *himself.*

It is at least arguable that the Turks in question are better treated in West German cities than they are *in* Turkish cities. Nor would forcing Germans to pay them higher wages obviously make them better off. It might just as surely deter Germans from giving *them jobs.*

Whatever the truth, or consequences, it is moving, for a Briton, *to see things happening because of a* book.

The Briton comes from a land where only a television programme could *now* have such an effect; and where, because television likes things simple and sentimental, the effect is nearly always for the worst.

In the 1960s, the glutinous *Cathy Come Home*, about "homelessness", strengthened the politicians' resolve to put up more tower blocks, which are the subject of a later generation of disturbing television documentaries. Because American television has been less "committed", the US has still, during the television era, relied more on books to worry itself, *viz* Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring*, about the bad effects of insecticides, and Ralph Nader's *Unsafe At Any Speed*. Wallraff's book is in this tradition.

Such books are sometimes wrong, or exaggerated. But, whether the reader is agreeing or disagreeing, or just reading, they require a mental effort that is not usually demanded in front of the television set. Wallraff's success is proof that books are still important in the country of Gutenberg.

Frank Johnson

Woodrow Wyatt

Abuse that has its uses

The more fastidious shrink a little inside at rows and vituperation in Parliament. They are thought to weaken the received notion of democracy and to set a bad example to potential hooligans. If MPs cannot conduct their affairs in a polite and civilized manner, what happens to the standards of behaviour in the nation? This has been a recurrent plaint since I first went into the Commons in 1945. After the broadcasting of Parliament began and the public became exposed to the brawling, shouting and insulting behaviour of MPs, the fear that our parliamentary institutions are thus discredited has grown among the sophisticated.

It is otherwise with the nation at large. As Nye Bevan said *to me* years ago, ordinary people like a good row in Parliament. He thought that it stimulated interest in the issues *involved and* that the more commotion there was in Parliament, the more alive and purposeful it seemed. Politicians speaking violently, in and out of the House, provoke arguments in the pubs and elsewhere, encouraging people to think.

Bevan was no slouch at this. "No amount of cajolery, and no attempts at ethical and social seduction, can eradicate from my heart a deep burning hatred for the Tory party . . . So *far as I am concerned*, they are lower than vermin," he said on July 4, 1948. His comment was followed by much outrage and led to an attempt to kick him down the steps by a member of White's, where he had rashly been taken by another Labour MP, Dick Stokes, a member of that Tory-inclined institution.

Attlee disapproved of Bevan's intemperate language but the hubbub probably did good. Though tempers rose, so did the examination of the proposition, which may well have helped R. A. Butler in warning the Tories that they would not be re-elected unless they embraced the welfare state.

Churchill often urged: "We must not be mealy-mouthed." I remember him saying in the Commons that Bevan (of whom he was not fond) was becoming "as great a menace in peacetime as he had been a squalid nuisance in time of war".

Churchill used the personal insult as a political weapon. He despised Ramsay MacDonald, who, when he was Prime Minister of the 1929 Labour government, behaved as though repeated humiliating defeats in the lobbies had not happened.

"I remember when I was a child being taken to the celebrated Barnum's Circus, which contained an exhibition of freaks and monstrosities," Churchill recalled, "but the exhibit on the programme which I most desired to see was the one described as 'The Boneless Wonder'. My parents judged that the spectacle would be too revolting and demoralizing for my youthful eyes, and I have waited 50 years to see the Boneless Wonder sitting on the Treasury Bench."

Churchill would not have been disturbed by the recent row between Mr Tebbit and Mr Kinnock, though he would have thought the language could have been more stylish than: "If you were more my age, I would take you on, boyo" (Kinnock) and "I could eat you for breakfast" (Tebbit).

Barracking can be a part of the democratic process and usually reflects more on the barracker than the barracked, as the public understands well. When Mrs Thatcher is abused and unheard at question time, her stock goes up and that of the Opposition goes down.

This does not justify the kind of smear campaign which Mr Sedgemore deploys under the cloak of parliamentary privilege to destroy the credibility of Lloyd's and the City, and which must be doing some damage to our important invisible earnings from our financial services.

However, like it or not, Sedgemore's excesses have enabled the Government to explain to a now very interested public what it is doing about the prevention of *corruption in the City.*

Disraeli called Peel "a burglar of others' intellect . . . there is no statesman who has committed political petty larceny on so great a scale". The reputation of neither has been affected. Nor when Disraeli described Gladstone as "worse than a Bulgarian horror" was any permanent damage done.

The public is apt to think there is far too much cosiness, with opponents drinking together in the smokingroom while pretending outside it to be enemies. A few brawls and insults heighten the feeling that some politicians, at least, genuinely adhere to the beliefs they proclaim. For many, the most significant thing Michael Heseltine ever did was to remove the Mace.

I am not in favour of the BBC televising the Commons, because of the danger that the snippets shown would fasten too much on the jolly insults and uproar. That would not give a balanced impression. But I am in favour of a TV channel dedicated to showing *all* the proceedings in the Chamber.

Enthusiasts would then be better able to put the sensational events into perspective and the rest of us would suffer from misreporting no more than we do today. Our democracy is not so delicate that it cannot stand the sight of MPs jeering and shouting: it might even raise the standard *of wit* in the verbal fisticuffs.

John O'Sullivan

Prof is a commie: discuss . . .

New York

The spectre of McCarthyism lurks and glowers somewhere in the rear of the American imagination. Every now and then, in response to some mild provocation, it pops out. Respectable people clutch at their hearts and reach for the sal volatile.

In recent days this spectre has been detected by anxious commentators in a new watchdog organization called Accuracy In Academia (AIA) which intends to check up on what "liberal" professors get up to in the classroom. It relies in the first instance on students sending examples of professorial bias. It then asks the professor for an explanation. Should the request be ignored or the explanation sound unconvincing, AIA will finally criticize the professor's arguments in its newsletter.

Whatever may be thought of its remedy, AIA is confronting a real problem. Much that goes under the name of education in America's *colleges and universities is really* indoctrination in a particular orthodoxy. Not all is liberal or leftist indoctrination; those small conservative colleges with "professors of free enterprise" are hardly opening their students' minds to a variety of explanation. But the great majority of universities are liberal strongholds, and the rise of the Sixties generation has placed in academic positions many people who think it their duty to inculcate in their students virtuous political opinions on the nuclear freeze or environmentalism.

It must have seemed politically shrewd to criticize such biases under the banner of consumer protection, with the consumers testing the product. After all, indoctrination is not education, and if someone has signed up for a course on John Stuart Mill, he can legitimately complain if the lectures never veer from the wickedness of Nixon and Kissinger. The rhetoric of consumer protection, moreover, has a politically moderate, even progressive "good government" flavour.

The problem is that the consumers of education are by definition unable to judge the quality of the product. That, indeed, *is* why indoctrination is so objectionable. So it is easy to imagine some young Torquemada misunderstanding a throwaway reference to *Marx* – and AIA as a result ending up with egg on its face. The organization is small and ill-financed; an article in the *New Republic*, though trying to discover its sinister side, portrayed AIA as almost a student body in the old-fashioned sense – haphazardly cheerful, self-mocking, and looking upon the enterprise as half a prank.

But AIA is not attacked on these perfectly reasonable grounds. It is instead denounced in extravagant terms as a danger to academic freedom. Professor Mark Reader of Arizona State University, AIA's first victim, and Dr Joseph Murphy, chancellor of the City University of New York, both reached instinctively for *1984* and denounced AIA's "thought police". That raises the question of exactly what penalty awaits Professor Reader in Room 101. *One newspaper suggested that* he might be held down and forced to listen to readings from Senator Barry Goldwater. But all that happened was that his reading lists were critically examined in print.

An intellectual should be able to withstand such treatment. To be *named as a biased liberal teacher in* AIA's newsletter carries no penalty at all. On most campuses, the professor "named" could dine out on his martyrdom.

But academia and its supporters are determined to believe their freedom is at risk. The *New York Times* feared that monitoring would be "destructive, chilling the robust free flow of ideas that is higher education". Instead, it urged students who disagreed with a professor's philosophy to "argue, explore and espouse (their own) ideas in class." Presumably professors are better able than students to argue their case, and although AIA has no power to discipline a professor of whom it disapproves, the student must be aware that to disagree with some markedly ideological professor might affect the grades he receives.

This is more than a mere debating point. Critics of AIA argue that under a cultural version of Gresham's Law, good ideas will drive out bad. Hence the solution to indoctrination is said to be honest argument within the academy. It is an appealing thought. But if the professors of a particular school form a cartel, achieve a local monopoly of (say) history and political science, and exclude new entrants marketing different views, Gresham's Law will simply not operate. The bad ideas will continue to circulate, indeed to dominate.

AIA can argue, in theory at least, that it is extending a student's freedom by subjecting to criticism ideas that would otherwise go unchallenged. In contrast, what the professors are claiming is less academic freedom than benefit of clergy. They are asserting that they can be judged only by their peers and that any external criticism amounts to an assault on their rights, even a form of censorship.

Whatever this may be called in today's political discourse, it is not historically recognizable as liberalism. So some humour can be had from AIA's extremely modest aim. It hopes to persuade professors to "label their courses accurately".

هكذا من الأصل

TIMES PAST
THE TIMES
P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ.
Telephone: 01-837 1234

CABINET BLADES

There are three shopping days to Christmas and probably more than a thousand knife sharpening days before the next Tory leadership contest. But, as Parliament breaks up for its holidays, one could be forgiven for thinking that the time-scales were reversed. The nerves of Messrs Tebbit, Brittan and Heseltine look every bit as frayed this week as those whose tempers have been tested on the high street pavements. As for their more peaceful-seeming rivals, Messrs Walker, Hurd and Sir Geoffrey Howe, they are not so much inactive as complacent; they did their shopping early this year.

The immediate focus is on Mr Heseltine. It happens to have been Westland Helicopters that has brought his frustrations out into the open. But it might easily have been something else. When Mrs Thatcher became Prime Minister, Mr Heseltine believed that he could run Britain better than she could; and he has not departed from that view. The European "solution" for the loss-making helicopter-makers of Yeovil has most of the elements of old interventionism incarnate. It is political, involving lots of ministerial telegrams, pledges and international understandings. It is backed – in theory – by the great and good interest groups at home. It is optimistic, speculative and put together in a hurry.

Mr Heseltine has always had his sympathisers and he has added to them this week. It is not easy being an industrial strategist when your boss does not like to have the words mentioned in her presence. When he failed to win the transfer to the Department of Trade and Industry that he would have liked in this year's Cabinet reshuffle, Mr Heseltine is said to have told friends that, in the current climate, it was easier to have an impact on industry as a major buyer than as a minor planner. He has invested a certain amount of his domestic political reputation in trying to make this claim stick, just as he had invested some of his European credibility in the battle against Sikorsky.

But has he really invested enough of his reputation to justify creating the most open fissure to appear in Mrs Thatcher's Cabinet since 1981 and to risk the possibility of his own enforced resignation? After all, it is not as though the mass of his departmental colleagues were looking to him for a lead. If the former and formidable Permanent Under Secretary, Sir Frank Cooper, had still been in post, the MOD might perhaps have begun its Westland help earlier. But his successor, the Prime Minister's own appointment, Mr Clive Whitmore, is of a less interventionist cast of mind and no such departmental pressure seems to have been applied. Moreover, the potential European partners must have known – from the very urgency of Mr Heseltine's negotiations – that they were in no sense the favourite in the race.

So Mr Heseltine did not need to flex his political muscles in the provocative way that he has. He must have felt that this was a good time for him to do so. He has seen the current insiders' favourite, Mr Tebbit, falter somewhat of late. Spearheading a long general election campaign – particularly if the bear-pit gets still bloodier – may not be the best route to victory in the real election that matters for would-be statesmen. His chief rival amongst the non-Thatcherites, Mr Walker, has already positioned himself nicely. If he can dodge the charge of scandalous appeasement to the anti-competitive instincts of Sir Denis Rooke he might earn the right wing's gratitude for gas privatization to go with his constantly firm support on the party left. In the centre there is Sir Geoffrey Howe, still the strong tortoise in the race (and remember what happened to the tortoise); and among the late-starters Mr Hurd is warming up his act all the time.

So for Mr Heseltine some quick action was perhaps necessary to keep his name in the frame. If the European deal goes through he will be able to claim a triumph. The French are unlikely to eat Westland for breakfast (as the week's phrase has it) before at least a decent interval has elapsed. If the Sikorsky plan goes ahead, he can at least claim to have put up a good fight – as well as being able openly to resist future attempts to stretch his hard-pressed defence budget into taking unwanted Sikorsky Black Hawk helicopters. He only risks an enforced trip to the shadowy back-bench world of Pym and Prior if Sikorsky takes umbrage, the Europeans prove less enthusiastic than he hoped, and helicopter making in Yeovil goes the way of motorcycle making in Coventry. Today the shares in both Westland and Heseltine stand higher than at the beginning of the week. But the pre-Christmas market can be a perceptive guide to the New Year, as well as being bad for the nerves.

SENATOR WHO?

A senator from a "rust bowl" state, his party in the minority, a man with 25 years' political service yet no piece of lasting legislation to his name, renowned in the deliberative chamber in which he sits neither as half a Solon or a quarter Demosthenes: he makes an announcement about a presidential election that is two years away and it is world news. The senator's name is Kennedy. And his announcement, with its careful timing and its careful non-exclusion of future presidential bids, is stunningly irrelevant.

The candidate-horses for 1988 have not even been corralled, let alone been shown the starting gate. Senator Kennedy's campaigning potential remains doubtful, especially after the failure of his 1980 run against President Carter. The Kennedy name, if it represents any assemblage of political ideas at all, stands for liberalism – an anachronistic preference for the operations of big, federal government whether in protecting trade or in second-guessing business decisions on the location of industry.

One school of pundits argues that if, in the next two years, the American economy goes into recession and unemployment rises, the voters would turn again to an old-style liberal Democrat of Senator Kennedy's stamp. Even if there were something in this, it is hard to see Californians, Texans, the states of the South, the Sun-Belt and the West seeking their future prosperity under the leadership of an Irish politician from Massachusetts, however famous his name.

Senator Kennedy's doings, his loves, his life, even his weight excite attention because of his kin and his membership of a mythic dynasty; the Kennedy name was long ago carried into a realm of celebrity in which cold judgements of significance no longer apply. But the Kennedy fame came also to rest on the disappointment of many Americans, of all conditions and all levels of sophistication, about their political leaders, especially their presidents. Interest in the Kennedys, even in its very prurience, often came from a thirst for high-toned, visionary leadership.

It is no small part of Mr Reagan's achievement that he has exorcised the Kennedys as a symbolic element in American political life. He, a politician from a vastly different background, has supplied that quality of leadership which many Americans, rightly or wrongly, thought was lost with the assassination of President Kennedy in 1963.

Senator Kennedy's presence on the presidential hustings was always more potent as a symbol of leadership than as an exhibition of his own, rather pedestrian qualities. But in the age of Mr Reagan such symbolism has lost its force. The Kennedy name has shrunk. The 1988 presidential race will be richer for the absence of its bearer.

Crumbling morality

From Rear-Admiral A. D. Torlesse (retd)

Sir, Anthony Bevins's remarks (December 12) on Lord Hailsham's speech deal with the problem, but not with the cause. Since the disappearance of religious instruction from most schools, where are the children of godless parents to learn morality? In very many homes the Christian ethic is a myth!

Some 50 years ago Viscount Samuel wrote (*Creative Man*); Without doubt, the greatest injury of all was done by basing morals on myth. For, sooner or later, myth is recognised for what it is, and disappears. Then morality loses the foundation on which it has been built. Until some other is given, there may follow a time, perhaps a long and troubled time, when man's soul is homeless, and his mind wanders without a guide. Whole civilisations may sink in moral corruption, social turmoil, and war.

Perhaps Viscount Samuel put his finger on one cause of our troubles today.

Yours faithfully,
A. D. TORLESSE,
1 Sway Lodge,
Sway,
Lymington,
Hampshire.
December 12.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Mixed feelings at Christmas time

From Mr Adrian Room

Sir, Every year, for at least three weeks before Christmas, important business and personal correspondence gets seriously delayed, even when sent first class, because of the sudden increase in the mailing of Christmas cards and packets.

Yet one' business life and personal life goes on, and it must surely be within the power of the Post Office to see that necessary standard mail is delivered on schedule.

Perhaps consideration could be given to a scheme whereby, on payment of, say, an extra 1p over the first-class rate (for letters), and the fastening of a suitably worded "Christmas priority" sticker (like an airmail label but coloured red, say), such postal items would get priority handling and would not be subject to the annual annoying delays. Main post offices, too, could even set up temporary post boxes for such correspondence, so that the public could assist in the procedure.

I am sure that many people would be willing to pay a small postal surcharge for such a service.

Yours faithfully,
ADRIAN ROOM,
173 The Causeway,
Petersfield,
Hampshire.
December 16.

From Mrs Patricia H. Vale

Sir, So (your article of December 16) 1985 was the year of the charity? I knew it as soon as the Christmas gift catalogues started dropping through the letter-box in August. When running a full-time job and a three-child home I used to find such catalogues, from a few charities of my own choice, a very satisfactory way of shopping.

But somehow the word got around. This year, in retirement, I have so far received 11 such catalogues and 14 appeals, some from organizations I have never even heard of. Six of these are duplicates, forwarded from my old working address. Total 25 and the year not yet over.

The goods they offer vary little: but the minimum postal charges quoted preclude spreading any order I might have been inclined to place. I no longer feel so charitable.

Assuming this overkill is general, then even if nobody orders anything at all the Post Office must be doing splendidly. Have we the charities to thank for its reduction of second-class mail to 12p?

Yours faithfully,
PATRICIA VALE,
Middle House,
Long Street,
Cerne Abbas, Dorset,
December 17

From Mr Christopher Friend

Sir, Dr Moss (December 16) will, I am sure, recognize that those engaged in charity owe it to their beneficial constituents to maximize every legal opportunity to raise funds.

Carefully prepared personalized appeals have enabled the Royal Commonwealth Society for the Blind to multiply tenfold the number of its supporters during the past few years, and as a result the society's medical teams working throughout the developing countries of the Commonwealth have treated the eyes of nearly 20 million patients threatened with blindness and have restored sight to nearly two million cataract patients on the Indian subcontinent.

Any responsible charity's appeals department must be sensitive to public opinion, which on this issue is divided into two camps – those who, like Dr Moss, object to direct mail as an invasion of privacy and those who, like the 100,000 RCSB supporters, respond with increasing generosity.

It was for such a reason that the direct mail industry established the Mailing Preference Service. This enables members of the public who so request to have their names deleted from the mailing files controlled or used by MPS-registered members.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER FRIEND,
Appeals Secretary,
Royal Commonwealth Society for the Blind,
Haywards Heath,
Sussex.
December 18.

Cards of no identity

From Mr C. R. B. Brooke

Sir, Am I alone in receiving beautiful Christmas cards from people with indecipherable names, either with no sender's address, or no indication of the name of the company or institution for whom the sender works?

I would think that approximatly one third of my Christmas cards this year have been in one or other of these categories.

Yours sincerely
ROGER BROOKE,
Candover Investments plc.
8-9 East Harding Street, EC4.
December 17.

From Mrs Marian Hird

Sir, Twenty years or so ago, newly married and very hard up, I remember with pleasure giving small Christmas boxes to my postman, dustmen, etc., but what am I to make of receiving Christmas cards this morning from my milkman and paper boy?

Yours faithfully,
MARIAN HIRD,
Orchard End,
85 New Road,
Weston Turville,
Aylesbury,
Buckinghamshire.

Concern on schizophrenia recognized

From the Chairman of the Mental Health Act Commission

Sir, None can fail to be moved by your three-part series (December 16-18) on the plight of schizophrenics and their families, in hospital or in the community. We at the Mental Health Act Commission are acutely aware, too, not least of the problem of isolation. Teams from among our 90 members visit mental hospitals and social service departments every week.

We were set up by Parliament, from many professions, to look after the interests of detained patients in the special and other hospitals. Our concern, too, is what happens to them when they leave. All patients who so wish are talked to, the issues they raise discussed with staff and management, and complaints pursued.

Everything possible is done to raise or maintain standards so that the best practices prevail. A vast range of points arises. Examples can be found in the commission's recent report, including one complaint about a schizophrenic patient and her family.

Yours faithfully,
COLVILLE, Chairman,
Mental Health Act Commission,
Room 22, Hepburn House,
Marsham Street, SW1.
December 19.

From the National Director of MIND

Sir, MIND welcomes the attention which your leader (December 19) and this week's articles (December 16-18) have given to the needs of people with mental illness and the crisis in developing community care.

Schizophrenia is not simply a disease with known biochemical causes, but there is evidence to support biochemical, social, familial and environmental factors. Emphasis on the disease model is one reason for the paucity of good community services based on individual need.

I am seriously concerned about the inaccuracies in the statement of MIND's policy in your leading article. MIND's policy is not a "barely restrained rejection of any State medicine"; neither is it opposed to the appropriate and careful use of drugs or involuntary detention.

The recent MIND conference did not pass resolutions in the way you suggest. MIND encouraged consumer groups to put forward their views and a poll was taken amongst some participants in that conference. This demonstrated a considerable unhappiness amongst the recipients of services at the treatment they receive, and their wish to be heard.

Government must recognize the need to develop comprehensive local mental health services as an alternative to institutional care. This will require substantial additional finance over that currently provided to our mental health services. An underfunded community-based service is no substitute for an underfunded institutional service.

Yours sincerely,
CHRISTOPHER HEGINBOTHAM
National Director,
MIND (National Association for Mental Health),
22 Harley Street, W1.
December 19.

From Councillor Tessa Jowell

Sir, Your leader (December 19) gives a powerful message to central and local government and we hope it is a message which will not continue to be ignored.

This is not to say that, even with resources, the path will be easy. Money needs to be channelled to local authorities, health authorities and voluntary organizations through machinery already available. In return these bodies will need to relinquish some of their preconceived notions of who should do what.

Sterile demarcation discussions could and should be abandoned in favour of a genuine sharing of responsibility for new provisions so that at last a pattern of service could be provided that supports the citizenship of mentally ill people.

Yours faithfully,
TESSA JOWELL, Chairman,
Social Services Committee,
Association of Metropolitan Authorities,
36 Old Queen Street, SW1.
December 19.

The forgotten disease

From Dr D. J. King

Sir, It is with grim satisfaction that I read Marjorie Wallace's articles (December 16-18) on schizophrenia – the forgotten disease. It has always seemed to me that the new mental health legislation, while protecting the rights of some, is going to jeopardize the early treatment of many schizophrenics.

Legislators and defenders of civil rights never seem to have grasped the essential problem of lack of insight in these patients. Not only has treatment to be given against their wishes or understanding, but there is growing evidence that early treatment can prevent or reduce the subsequent destruction of the personality which so often follows.

Biological treatments revolutionized the outcome of schizophrenic patients and in the 20 years following the introduction of neuroleptics in the 1950s, they had an 80 per cent chance of living in the community instead of a previous 20 per cent. The irony of this development can now be seen in the assumption, encouraged by the polemics of Thomas Szas and others, that these patients can be treated the same as any others with mental or emotional problems: that schizophrenics can be understood by identifying with them.

Unfortunately, unless the folly of this course is realized the wheel will turn full circle and private and ultimately new public asylums will spring up to really care for society's failure to care for those who are alienated by their own lack of understanding and inability to describe their difficulties and suffering.

I hope that these timely articles will help to awaken the public conscience to what has gone wrong in our mental health services.

Yours faithfully,
D. J. KING,
Queen's University of Belfast,
Department of Therapeutics & Pharmacology,
Whitla Medical Building,
Lisburn Road,
Belfast,
Northern Ireland.
December 18.

Permanent poles

From J. M. Sassoon

Sir, I am appalled at Mr Roger Underhill's suggestion (December 13) that The Mall should be cluttered up by the installation of permanent flagpoles.

The present temporary poles provide a perfectly restrained and adequate foil to the swags of flags which decorate The Mall on state occasions. But, more importantly, the special character of the street at other times is surely greatly enhanced by the relative absence of the "street furniture" which clutters up virtually ever other London street.

So far from installing further metalwork in The Mall we ought to be asking the authorities to remove some of the accretions of recent years.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES SASSOON,
12 Lyall Street, SW1.
December 14.

Security of tenure

From Professor G. P. G. Butler

Sir, I do wish you wouldn't publish reports such as that by Roger Boyes on Poland's "big purge of universities" (December 12). News that other governments are successfully "gnawing deep into everyday academic life" constitutes encouragement where none is needed: the Poles may be "obviously worried about the international impact of the purge"; the British Government's purgative policies towards UK universities obviously reflect no such worries, and the Department of Education and Science has quite enough mini-Mussolinis at its beck and call already.

Yours faithfully,
GEOFFREY BUTLER,
Newbury,
Beechen Cliff,
Bath,
Avon.
December 12.

Academic freedoms

From Professor Bernard Wood

Sir, Basil Davidson's logic (December 12) is as confused as is his understanding of the events that led up to, and have followed, the decision by the organizers of next year's World Archaeological Congress to prohibit the attendance of scientists living and working in South Africa. The two "certainties" he presents in his letter are scarcely controversial, but it makes no sense, logical or otherwise, to deal with one denial of a fundamental freedom by the denial of another.

The World Archaeological Congress is the eleventh congress of the International Union of Prehistoric and Protohistoric Sciences (IUPPS). Since it was established 50 years ago the policy of that body has been that it must accept to its congresses "all *bona-fide* scientists to its venue, irrespective of nationality, philosophical conviction or religious faith". The organizers made it clear in their first apologia to potential participants that their decision to ban South African participants was *not* because of any moral stance, but as an expedient response to political and practical pressures exerted on them by Southampton council and the local AUT (Association of University Teachers) and student organizations.

It is legitimate for these organizations to have political views, but it is neither legitimate nor proper for an organization of scholars to abdicate their responsibility or a fundamental and vital principle of academic freedom quite so easily and readily. Subsequent attempts to cloak this decision in the clothes of moral justification make the initial expediency seem all the more unseemly.

I, and many other international scientists, have now withdrawn from the forthcoming congress. My withdrawal is for the general reason of academic freedom, which was recently put to your readers with commendable clarity and moderation by Sir Andrew Huxley and Sir Randolph Quirk (November 27).

It is also because I wish to offer my support to those academics who work at universities in South Africa which, against strong Government pressure, operate open admissions policies. Many have an enviable record of resistance to the authoritarianism which underpins the shame of apartheid.

I am disappointed and ashamed that fellow UK academics have capitulated in this way and thus tolerated the significant erosion of the profound principle of free academic interchange.

It is a particular irony that prehistorians, who more than others have the evidence to emphasise the essential unity of mankind, have chosen to adopt such a divisive attitude to international scholarship.

Yours faithfully,
BERNARD WOOD,
The University of Liverpool,
Department of Anatomy,
PO Box 147,
Liverpool.
December 12.

From Mr J. G. Watson

Sir, Mr Davidson (December 12) says, "academic freedoms are not divisible". Quite so; hence the boycott of South African academics is wrong.

Yours etc,
JOHN WATSON, Librarian,
University of Oxford,
Institute of Economics and Statistics,
St Cross Building,
Manor Road,
Oxford.
December 12.

Straight talking on Westland

From Mr G. E. Knight

Sir, I have read today (December 19) the patheticaly irrelevant letter to you from the member for Wantage on the subject of the "Westland deal" and also the emotional appeal to you in a letter from my old friend Robin Caldecote.

As one who has had some 30 years of experience in the aircraft industry, and many years of experience of European collaboration on the Concorde project, I believe that it is about time that a little more rational discussion emerged on this subject.

Firstly, the Government, with plenty of time to do so, decided months ago not to intervene directly in order to resolve the financial crisis at Westland.

Secondly, Westland's European "friends" also decided earlier in the year not to intervene. Perhaps they hoped that a competitor might go out of business?

Thirdly, Westland is not owned by the Government and, although it is primarily a defence contractor, decisions about its future rest now with its shareholders.

Fourthly, Westland have never been a "tin-basher" for Sikorsky. On the conrary, they have had a long and most fruitful relationship with Sikorsky – to the advantage of the U.K. defence forces as well as to Westland.

Fifthly, an alliance with Aerospatiale and others would almost certainly result in a "tin-bashing" role for Westland. What else is British Aerospace's role in Airbus Industrie?

Sikorsky has produced more helicopters and in a wider range than any of Europe's manufacturers. Its relationship with Westland in the past has been good for this country and good for the employees and the shareholders of Westland.

It may make good politics for the Secretary of State for Defence to put Westland together with British Aerospace, GEC, Aerospatiale *et al.* But politics don't make good helicopters. Sikorsky does and wants Westland as a partner, not as a subcontractor.

Finally, would one not regard Fiat as a pretty potent European partner – compared, say, with Agusta?

Yours faithfully,
GEOFFREY KNIGHT,
136 Minories, EC3.
December 19.

Politics by punch-up

From Sir Andrew Gilchrist

Sir, As I understand Mr Alan Smith's letter (December 13) about Ulster, he finds the behaviour of the "loyalists" so intolerable that the right policy for the United Kingdom (of which Ulster, oddly enough, is still a part) is to apply economic sanctions by withdrawing our subsidies, thereby reducing the standard of living and increasing unemployment. That is, we should starve those "intransigent" people into submission.

What would Mr Smith do about the half-million people in Northern Ireland who have not (recently) derided a British secretary of state? Would he issue special ration cards for Catholics? Or does he believe (remembering the affair at Brighton) that the best thing to do is to say "a plague on both their houses" and starve the lot? He should tell us.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW GILCHRIST,
Arthur's Crag,
Hazelbank,
by Lanark.
December 13.

NUT and Labour

From the General Secretary of the National Union of Teachers

Sir, I really would like to correct a totally false statement made in *The Times* (December 14) about the National Union of Teachers.

It is simply not true to say the "NUT supports Labour overtly". The union is not and has never been affiliated to the Labour or any other political party, nor does it overtly or covertly support a particular party. The union meets and works with MPs of all parties and will continue to do so.

Yours faithfully,
FRED JARVIS,
General Secretary,
National Union of Teachers,
Hamilton House,
Mabledon Place, WC1.
December 17.

Art and design

From Mr Louis van Praag

Sir, As a manufacturer much concerned with product design I should like to elaborate on the President of the Royal Academy's statement (December 14), responding to proposed National Advisory Body cuts, that the interface between fine art teaching and design education is of fundamental industrial importance.

We see excellent examples of this in Italy, where both art and design flourish alongside each other in a sympathetic culture. But the National Advisory Body, constantly it must be remembered under financial pressure from the Department of Education and Science, in its recent policy statement that "fine art must have a greater relevance to the applied arts" has made the crass error of believing that those fine artists whose courses will be permitted to continue will best serve the community by themselves becoming designers.

Against substantial cultural odds we had succeeded in this country in establishing the finest art and design education system in the world. It is bizarre, to say the least, that this is being maimed at the behest of an uncomprehending secretary of state while his colleagues at the Department of Trade and Industry are spending his savings in a "design" campaign to persuade industry to exploit the talents of the creative people graduating from the very system under DES attack.

Yours faithfully,
LOUIS van PRAAG, Chairman,
Sabre International Textiles Ltd,
Windmill Road,
Sunbury-on-Thames, Middlesex.

Horns of a dilemma

From Mr Andrew Sanger

Sir, I am intrigued by your correspondent Charlotte Farris's suggestion (December 16) for a vegetarian Christmas dinner in which a nut roast could be made into the shape of a turkey. What attraction would the shape of a dead turkey have for a vegetarian?

We have been vegetarian for some 20 years and do, as it happens, generally eat a nut roast, roast potatoes, etc. at Christmas. Our nut roast is shaped like a nut roast.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW SANGER,
4 Kingscroft Road, NW2.

ON THIS DAY

DECEMBER 21, 1830

This leading article condemns an early instance of violent or secondary picketing. The word "picket" in this context was not in use (according to the O.E.D.) until 1867 – and that first usage is quoted as from The Times, *August 22.*

PICKETING

It adds in no small degree to the concern with which everybody must regard the situation of the southern agricultural districts, to find that some bodies of journeymen manufacturers in the north have recommended the practice of turning out, on account, or pretence, of insufficient wages. There is, doubtless, of necessity, no connexion between a refusal to work and any criminal or illegal proceeding. Any journeyman, or number of journeymen, may, with as perfect propriety, tell a master that if he wishes to employ them he must raise the price of their labour, as he, the master, may give them to understand, that unless they consent to a reduction of wages, he will dispense with their future services. To this point all is clear and fair, because it is an equal exercise, on both sides, of acknowledged right. But, unfortunately, on the part of the journeymen, the turn-out for wages very seldom confines itself within such lawful limits. There is but rarely an instance of any number of the "operatives" determining to suspend their operations, without at the same time enforcing their measures and fortifying their demands by acts of violence, or at least by fearful menaces against all journeymen in the same line of manufacture with themselves, who will not leave their employers also, and incur the consequent risks and privations of idleness, however well satisfied they may have been with the treatment they have experienced, and with the remuneration obtained by them for their proper work. Thus are thousands of steady, industrious, and inoffensive men, forced, together with their wives and families, at the peril frequently of their very existence, to forego the enjoyment of daily bread, and the numberless comforts of a regular and assured subsistence, because certain other thousands, of whom the law, as well as reason and justice, have made them altogether independent, will not suffer them to act on their own views of their most essential interests, but insist on making them the tools of a project with which they have no sympathy nor concern.

We see by the local newspapers, that at Ashton-under-Line, a mass of journeymen spinners, amounting to 18,000 or 20,000, marched in a tumultuous manner through that town, and proceeded with a design to intimidate the spinners of Hyde and Oldham to follow their example; that they uttered savage threats against their several masters, and, above all, that they had procured for themselves a considerable number and variety of arms. Are these the measures of well-disposed citizens, anxious only to procure themselves justice, or to promote their own interests, by legal means, and with a corresponding respect for the rights of others? Is it to be endured, that on pretence of obtaining increased wages, they shall venture to wrest such increase from the master-manufactures by outrage, or to frighten great bodies of journeymen working peaceably at a distance of some miles from Ashton, into the starvation of their families, that those of Ashton may have some more shillings in the week for drink? That there is trick and knavery, as well as illegality, in these movements, may be gathered from the fact, that the leaders of them do not appear to be of the same class or calling as their followers. One fellow is said to be a dyer, and others are strangers, not unknown to that sort of fame which is won by an intercourse with police-officers.

COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
December 20: Mr Justice Gatehouse had the honour of being received by The Queen upon his appointment as a Justice of the High Court of Justice when Her Majesty conferred upon him the honour of Knighthood.

Mr M. E. Howell was received in audience by The Queen upon his appointment as British High Commissioner to Papua New Guinea.

Mrs Howell had the honour of being received by Her Majesty.

The Queen, Colonel-in-Chief, The Queen's Own Mercian Yeomanry, received Lieutenant-Colonel Alan Hedley upon relinquishing his appointment as Commanding Officer of the Regiment and Major Peter Appleby upon assuming the appointment.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron and Twelfth Man of the Lord's Taverners, this morning at Buckingham Palace presented the County Championship Trophy to the Middlesex County Cricket Club.

His Royal Highness, Honorary Air Commodore, Royal Air Force Kinloss, received Group Captain D. Emmerson upon relinquishing command of the Station and Group Captain M. G. Peaker upon assuming command.

The Duke of Kent, Colonel-in-Chief of the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, will visit C Company of the 5th Battalion at Balham, on January 22.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr P. J. Blackwell and Miss R. L. Pirie
The engagement is announced between Paul Joseph, youngest son of Mr and Mrs B. W. Blackwell, of Luton, Bedfordshire, and Rebecca Lesley, younger daughter of Squadron Leader G. M. Pirie, DFC (ret'd) and Mrs Pirie, of Orpington, Kent.

Mr T. M. Burke and Miss C. M. Terleski
The engagement is announced between Trevor, elder son of Mr and Mrs M. G. Burke, of Aubrey Road, Birmingham, and Claudia, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs G. G. Terleski, of Bridport, Dorset.

Mr A. Dawkes and Miss L. Pritchard
The engagement is announced between Adrian, son of Mr J. C. Dawkes and the late Mrs S. Dawkes, of Bishops Tachbrook, Warwickshire, and Louise, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs D. A. Pritchard, of Harrow, Middlesex.

Mr M. C. W. Lavers and Miss G. McGlennon
The engagement is announced between Mark, only son of Mr and Mrs C. J. W. Lavers, of Sunningdale, Ascot, Berks, and Gilian, only daughter of Mr and Mrs M. F. McGlennon, of Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria.

Mr G. A. MacDonald and Miss S. K. Grimwood
The engagement is announced between Gordon, son of Mr Ian MacDonald and the late Mrs Maureen McDonald, of Stoke Poges, Buckinghamshire, and Samantha, daughter of Mr Terence Grimwood, of Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire, and Mrs Penelope Holland, of Sunningdale, Berkshire.

Mr H. J. Milner and Miss L. I. M. Anderson
The engagement is announced between Howard James, elder son of the Ven Ronald J. and Mrs Milner, of Sleaford, Lincolnshire, and Lorna Isabel, daughter of Mr and Mrs Alistair D. S. Anderson, of Helensburgh, Dunbartonshire.

Mr D. R. Reynolds and Miss A. J. F. Collings
The engagement is announced between Daniel, only son of Mr and Mrs T. R. Reynolds, of Rushmore Park, Tollard Royal, Wiltshire, and Amanda, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs R. A. Collings, of Cagebrook Mill, Clehonger, Hereford.

Dr P. C. Wason and Mrs J. E. Williams
The engagement is announced between Peter Cathcart Wason, husband of the late Marjorie Vera Wason, of Highgate, London, and Joan Williams, wife of the late Professor Glyndwr Williams, of Reading, Berkshire.

Marriages

Mr W. G. D. Ropner and the Hon Mrs C. M. Taddei
A service of blessing took place at Holy Trinity Church, Brompton, on Wednesday, December 18, after the marriage of Mr David Ropner to the Hon Mrs Charlotte Taddei. Canon Frank Ledgard officiated.

Captain J. A. S. Bernard and Miss J. Whitehead
The marriage took place in Ashkirk, Selkirkshire, on Saturday December 14 between Captain J. A. S. Bernard, Blues and Royals, son of Mr and Mrs F. W. W. Bernard, Herape House, St Johns, Jersey, and Miss Jilly Whitehead, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs P. G. T. Whitehead, Easter Essenside, Ashkirk.

Mr J. F. Curtis and Miss A. E. Bolton
The marriage took place on Saturday, December 14 at St Giles Church, Croxden, of Mr John Curtis and Miss Lisa Bolton.

The bride was attended by Rachel Laughton-Scott and Louise Swithinbank.

The reception was held in Croxden Abbey, and the honeymoon will be spent in Australia.

Church news

Appointments

The Rev R A Freeman, curate, Crayford, diocese of Rochester, to be Vicar, Slade Green, same diocese.

The Rev R G Gilbert, priest-in-charge, Madron, diocese of Truro, to be Rector, Falmouth King Charles the Martyr, same diocese.

The Rev J M P Creedon, formerly Industrial Chaplain and Hospital Chaplain in the Harlow team ministry, diocese of Chelmsford, to be Vicar, St John's, Moulsham, same diocese.

The Rev D Goss, curate, Wood Green team ministry, diocese of London, to be team vicar, Cleadless Valley team ministry, Sheffield, diocese of Sheffield.

The Rev A J Howard, Vicar, St Andrew's, Sidcup, diocese of Rochester, to be Vicar, St Catherine's, Layton, diocese of Chelmsford.

The Rev A J Hughes, curate, All Saints, Shard End, diocese of Birmingham, to team Vicar, St Helen's Solihull, in the Solihull team ministry, same diocese.

The Rev D B A Johnson, Vicar St Mark's Plumstead, diocese of Southwark, to be Chaplain, West Park Hospital, Epsom, same diocese.

The Rev E J Miller, Rector, Selworthy and Timberscombe and Wootton Courtney, diocese of Bath and Wells, to be also priest-in-charge, Luccombe, same diocese.

The Rev P Miller, Vicar, St Luke's Torquay, diocese of Exeter, to be Vicar, Green Street Green, Orpington, diocese of Rochester.

The Rev R F Price, Chaplain to the Markets, St Martin in the Bull Ring, Birmingham, diocese of Birmingham, to be Vicar, St Augustine's, Edgbaston, same diocese.

The Rev J N Newton, Rector, Sleaford with Lissett and Dunnington, North Frodingham and Foston-on-the-Wolds, diocese of York, to be Rector, Todwick, diocese of Sheffield.

Canon J C F O'Byrne, former priest-in-charge, St Stephen's, Norwich, to be diocesan director of Ordinands, diocese of Norwich, to be an honorary canon emeritus of Norwich Cathedral, same diocese.

The Rev P G Roberts, priest-in-charge, Kirkby St Martin, diocese of Liverpool, to be team Vicar, Kirkby team ministry, same diocese.

The Rev A G B Rowe, Chaplain of Heathfield School, Ascot, diocese of Oxford, to be team Vicar in the Wellington and District team ministry, responsible for West Buckland, Langford Budville and Runnington, diocese of Bath and Wells.

The Rev T Schofield, curate, Gresham, diocese of St Albans, to be team Vicar designate in the Colyton team ministry, diocese of Exeter.

The Rev E G Seddon, priest-in-charge, St Mark's, Dunham Massey, diocese of Chester, to be Vicar, same diocese, same diocese. He continues as priest-in-charge, St Werburgh's, Warburton, same diocese.

Canon G T Shadlane, formerly Rector, Holy Trinity, Heigham, Norwich, diocese of Norwich, to be an honorary canon emeritus of Norwich Cathedral, same diocese.

The Rev G Smyth, curate, St Keverne's, diocese of Truro, to be Vicar, Landrake with St Erney and Botus Fleming, same diocese.

The Rev N C Turton, curate, Gedalming, SS Peter and Paul, diocese of Guildford, to be Vicar, St Mark's, Wyke, same diocese.

The Rev M E G Warchus, Vicar, Carlton and Drax, and diocesan drama adviser, diocese of York, to St Stephen's, Acomb, same diocese.

Resignations and retirements

The Rev G W W Armstrong, curate, Howden, diocese of York, to retire on Feb 28.

The Rev H C C Bowen, acting curate-in-charge, Ash Priors, diocese of Bath and Wells, retired Dec 6.

The Rev D Clift, industrial chaplain in Maidstone and East Kent, diocese of Canterbury, to retire, Jan 31 through illness.

Canon B S W Crockett, Vicar, Mickleover and an honorary canon of Derby Cathedral, diocese of Derby, to retire in spring.

The Rev W Hartley, area Dean of Leigh, diocese of Manchester, resigned Dec 31.

Prebendary F Pischaud, Christ Church, Chelsea, diocese of London, to retire, Jan 31.

The Rev A J Talbot, All Hallows, Chertsey Road, Twickenham, diocese of London, to retire, Jan 31.

Scottish Episcopal Church

The Rev I A Moses, Rector of St Margaret's, Leven (St Andrews), to be Rector of Old St Paul's, Edinburgh.

The Rev J C Lindsay, curate of linked charges of St Fillan's and St Hilda's, Edinburgh, to be team priest for the same churches.

D L Collingwood, stipendiary ministry, to serve at Christ Church, Morningside.

Deaconess Elizabeth Mulloch to serve at St Mary's Cathedral, Deaconess Janet Dyer to serve at St Mungo's, Balerno, and Deaconess Dorothea Lockie to serve at St Peter's, Lutton Place.

The Rev Douglas Jones has been granted a warrant in the diocese of Edinburgh.

The Rev A M Maclean, Rector of Holy Trinity, Dunoon (Argyll), to be Provost of Cathedral Church of St John, Oban (Argyll).

The Rev Colin Nield, formerly Rector of West Retford (Southwell), to be Rector of St Michael's, Elie and St John's, Pittenweem (St Andrews).

The Rev H G C Lee, Rector of St James, Bishopbriggs (Glasgow), to be Rector of St Columba's, Cardiff, and the churches of the Strathearn Group (St Andrews).

The Rev John Riches has been granted a commission in the diocese of Glasgow.

Birthdays

TODAY: Sir Robert Armitage, 79; Sir Arthur Benson, 78; Air Commandant Dame Jean Bromet, 73; Lord Caccia, 80; Mrs Chris Evert-Lloyd, 31; Vice-Admiral Sir Raymond Hawkins, 76; Lord Justice Lawton, 74; Mr David McFall, 66; Mr W. M. M. Milligan, 78; Mr Merlin Minshall, 79; the Most Rev John A. Murphy, 80; Sir John Nabarro, 70; Mr Anthony Powell, 80; Flight Lieutenant W. Reid, VC, 64; Mr Walter Spanghero, 42; Mr Greville Starkey, 46; Mr Peter Tinniswood, 49; Mr James Tye, 64; Dr Kurt Waldheim, 67.

TOMORROW: Air Chief Marshal Sir John Aiken, 64; Dame Peggy Ashcroft, 78; Nora Lady Barlow, 100; Mr James Burke, 49; Dr Alan Bush, 85; the Right Rev Cyril Easthaugh, 88; Mr Noel Edmonds, 37; Miss Patricia Hayes, 76; Air Vice-Marshal Sir Edgar Lowe, 80; Mr Michael Molloy, 45; Mr Chris Old, 37; the Rev Lord Sandford, 65; the Duke of Westminster, 34; Colonel W. H. Whitbread, 85; the Very Rev J. H. S. Wild, 81.

Services tomorrow

Fourth Sunday in Advent

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL: 11 Sung Euch, Canterbury Service (Piccolo). Ecce virgo concipiet (Isaac). The Dean: 3.15 Choral E. The Angel Gabriel (Willcocks). Responses (Saunders). Tones II Solemn and VIII. Laetentur coeli (Byrd).
YORK MINSTER: 8, 8.45 HC: 10.15 Sung Euch, Litany (Loosemore). Byrd, the Chancellor: 11.30 M, Stanford in B flat; 4 E, Chichester service (Walton). This is the record of John (Gibbons). Canon David Senior: 7 St Michael-le-Belfrey Carol service.
ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 10.30 Choral M, Benedicite (Rumsden in B flat). Jubilate (Weelkes). Rev Graham Routledge: 11.30 HC. Missa brevis (Palestrina). I look from afar (Palestrina): 3.15 Choral E. The Short Service (Noble). Vos dicentis (Naylor). Rev Philip Buckler.
WESTMINSTER ABBEY: 8 HC: 10.30 M, Benedicite (Purcell in B flat). And the glory of the Lord (Handel). Rev Norman McCurry: 11.40 Sung Euch. Missa brevis (Fauxbourdons (Byrd). Ecce Emmanuel (Antognini). Aedis Christi (Forbes). Hymn to the Virgin (Britten). Rev Anthony Harvey: 6.30 ES. Rev Eric James.
SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL: 9 HC: 11 Euch. Missa brevis (Berkeley). Rejoice in the Lord (Redford). Zion hears her watchmen's voices (Bach). Canon Richard Garrard. Christmas Carol Service.
WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL: 7, 8, 9 LM: 10.30 HM. Missa Ave Maris Stella (Victoria). A hymn to the Virgin (Britten). Ave verum (Philips): 12, 6.30, 7 LM: 3.30 V. Magnificat secundi toni (Severtus). Vos dicentis (Naylor).
ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL: Southwark: 8, 10, 12.15, 6 LM: 11 MM, Wachet auf (Bach). Psalmody (XVI + XVII). O Lord I lift my heart to thee (Gibbons). Rev L Scott.

CHAPEL ROYAL, St James's Palace, SW1: 9.30 HC: 11.15 MP. Rejoice in the Lord (Purcell). Canon E M Pilkington.
QUEEN'S CHAPEL OF THE SAVOY, WC2: 11.15 Service of Lessons and Carols.
ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE, Greenwich, SE10: No service.
GUARDS CHAPEL, Wellington Barracks, SW1: 11 Choral M. The Chaplain: 12 HC.
TOWER OF LONDON, EC3: 11.15 Carol Service (Sally Dransfield).
TEMPLE CHURCH, Fleet Street, EC4: 8.30 HC: 11.15 MP. Benedicite omnia opera (Sumsion in D). Benedictus (Thalben-Ball in C). Rejoice in the Lord (Purcell). The Master.
ST CLEMENTS DANES (RAF Church), EC4: 8.30 HC: 11 Service of Nine Lessons and Carols in aid of St Christopher's Fellowship: 12.15 HC.
CHAPEL ROYAL, Hampton Court Palace: 8.30 HC: 11 M, Naylor in C, Boyce in C. Sion hears her watchmen's voices (Bach). The Chaplain: 3.30 Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols (admission by ticket).

ALL HALLOWS BY THE TOWER, EC3: 11 Sung Euch, Rev Dr Peter Delaney: 4 Service of Lessons and Carols by Candlelight, Rev Michael Beesley.
ALL SAINTS, Margaret Street, W1: 8, 5.15 LM: 10.30 MP: 11 HM, Missa simile est regnum coelorum (Victoria), Rev C A Reddington: 6 Solemn E and B. Fauxbourdons (Byrd). Rev J S W Young.
ALL SOULS, Langham Place, W1: 9.30 HC: 11 Choral M and Euch, Benedicite (Jackson in G), Kyrie (Martin Hoyle), Canon John Oates: 6.30 Service of Nine Lessons and Carols.
ST CUTHBERT'S, Philbeach Gardens, SW5: 10 HC: 11 Sung Euch, Aeterna Christi munera (Palestrina), This is the record of John (Gibbons), Rev W J Kirkpatrick: 6 E and B.
ST GYPRIAN'S, Clarence Gate, NW1: 8 LM: 10.30 M: 11 HM, Rev P R Harding.
ST GEORGE'S, Hanover Square, W1: 8.30 HC: 11 Sung Euch Walsen in G. O for a closer walk with God (Stanford). The Rector: 6 Service of Nine Lessons with carols.
ST JAMES'S, Piccadilly, W1: 9.30 HC: 11 Sung Euch: 6.30 Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols.
ST LUKE'S, Chelsea, SW3: 8 HC: 10.30 MP, Nicholson in C, Rev D R Watson: 11.20 HC: 6.30 E, Rev N Wyatt.
ST MARGARET'S, Westminster, SW1: 8.45 HC: 11 Choral M, Canon Trevor Beeson: 12.15 HC: 6 Service of Nine Lessons and Carols.
ST MARTIN IN THE FIELDS, WC2: 8 HC: 9.46 Family Communion, Rev Charles Hedger: 11.30 MP, Rev Philip Chester: 3 Salvation Army Carol Service: 6.30 BBC World Service Christmas Service. The Vicar.
ST MARY ABBOT'S, Kensington High Street, W8: 8, 12.30 HC: 9.30 Sung Euch, Rev S M H Acland: 11.15 M, The Vicar: 6.30 Lessons and Carols.
ST MARY'S, Bourne Street, SW1: 9, 9.45, 7 LM: 11 HM, Missa brevis (Shane Fletcher). Ave Maria (Arcadelt). Ecce concipies (Handl), Dr E L Mascall: 6.15 E and Solomo B.
ST MARYLEBONE'S, Marylebone Road, W1: 8, 11 HC, Missa a quinque vocibus (Byrd). All this night (Finzi), Rev D Head: 6.30 Festival of Nine Lessons and Christmas Carols by Candlelight.
ST MICHAEL'S, Chester Square, SW1: 8.15 HC: 11 Sung Euch, Rev D C L Prior: 6.30 HC, Rev D C L Prior.
ST PAUL'S, Robert Adam Street, WC2: 11 MP, Rev Dr J I Packer: 6.30 Carol Service, Rev Canon Cassidy.
ST PAUL'S, Wilton Place, SW1: 8, 9 HC: 11 Solemn Euch, Communion service in D minor (Vaughan Williams), Magnificat secundi toni (Lassus), Aspectus ad virginem (English, 14th century), Rev R G Russell.
ST PETER'S, Eaton Square, SW1: 8.15 HC: 10 Family Mass, 11 Solemn Mass, Missa secunda (Hassler), Hide not thou thy face (Farrant), Rev Fr D B Tillyer: 6.30 Service of Nine Lessons and Carols.
ST STEPHEN'S, Gloucester Road, SW7: 8, 9, LM: 11 HM, Missa in honorem S. Thomas Cantuariensis (Goldman), Prob Herbert Moore: 6 Solemn E and B, Rev Dr Perry Butler.
ST VEDAST, Foster Lane, EC2: 11 Sung Euch, Plainsong, Comfort ye (Handel).

ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Pont Street, SW1: 11, Rev W Alexander Cairns: 6.30 Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols.
COVENT GARDEN, ST PAUL'S CHURCH, Covent Garden, WC2: 11.15, Rev Denis Duncan: 6.30, Rev Donald MacArthur.
THE ASSUMPTION, Warwick Street, W1: 8, 11 Sung Mass of 1651 (Monteverdi, Ecce concipies (Handl), Ne Timeas Maria (Victoria): 12, 4, 6 LM.
FARM STREET, W1: 7.30, 8.30, 10 LM: 11 HM, Missa in adventu (Naylor), Ecce concipies (Handl): 12.15, 4.15, 6.15 LM.
THE ORATORY, Brompton Road, SW7: 7, 8, 10 LM: 11 HM, Mass dixit Maria (Hassler), Ecce dominus veniet (Victoria), 12.30, 4.30, 7 LM: 3.30 V, Magnificat (Naplet).
OUR LADY OF VICTORIES, Abingdon Road, W8: 8, 9, 10, 12.30, 5.30 LM: 11 HM, Mass for four voices (Byrd), Ne timeas Maria (Victoria), Veni Emmanuel (Plainsong).
ST ETHELDREDA'S, Ely Place, EC1: 9, 6 LM: 11 MM, Salvanic 3 (Dundas-Grant), Rorate coeli (Mode D).
CITY TEMPLE, Holborn, EC1: 11, Ms Meggie Hindley: 6.30 Christmas Guest Service Lessons and Carols, Rev Chris Flashman.
HINDE STREET METHODIST CHURCH, W1: 11, Carol Service: 6.30, Rev Ken Harrell.
KENSINGTON URC, Kensington High Street, W8: 11, Dr Kenneth Slack: 6.30 Festival of Lessons and Carols.
REGENT SQUARE PRESBYTERIAN (URC), Tavistock Place, WC1: 11 and 6.30, Rev J Miller.
ST ANNE AND ST AGNES (Lutheran), Cresham Street, EC2: 11 HC.
ST JOHN'S WOOD URC, NW8: 9.30, Rev John Miller.
WESLEY'S CHAPEL, City Road, EC2: 11 Carols and Christingle, Rev Dr Ronald C Gibbins.
WESTMINSTER CENTRAL HALL (Methodist), SW1: 11, Rev Dr R John Tudor: 6.30 Night of Wonder Service, Rev Dr R John Tudor.
WESTMINSTER CHAPEL, Buckingham Gate, SW1 11 and 6.30, Rev Dr R T Kendall.



Dewi Morgan

Time to echo heaven's laughter

Running the Roman Empire, so Caesar Augustus discovered, was very expensive. He must raise more taxes. So he decreed a census.

Let every Jew return to his birthplace and register. Thus it came about that Joseph and Mary found themselves in an overcrowded Bethlehem where she gave birth to her son in a cowshed. Despite the royal blood in his veins, Joseph could find no room in the inn.

Before many decades had elapsed, four men had written not a biography nor a profile of this baby but a statement of the Good News he lived and proclaimed.

That all four accounts are different is significant. It shows there was no party line. Each was left to give his own viewpoint and emphasis; each was writing for a different audience.

Matthew starts with Jesus's family tree and rapidly gets into the politics of Herod and the witness of the intellectual world typified in the wise men from the east. Here we are close to the corridors of power.

Mark has little interest in the birth and boyhood of Jesus. He is anxious to get on with the suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus because for him that was what Jesus was all about.

Luke, artist as well as writer, is the one responsible for all that background imagery which shows itself in carols and nativity plays. He alone tells us about fields and shepherds and angel choruses and oxen offering their bovine praises, matters about which he probably heard directly from the mother of Jesus.

John takes the whole thing into a different dimension by leading with the eternal Word, the Godness of God, so to speak, becoming flesh, the essence of the human.

The Jesus about whom they wrote was and is both the Son of God and Son of Man. To have four reporters deal honestly and without collusion about such a paradox is inevitably to have four different accounts and they are none the worse for that.

Two thousand years later there is no nation which does not have at least a sprinkling of the followers of this Jesus. He has found a place in and proved a puzzle to every culture.

More people claim to be his followers than any other religious leader. And more people have come to blows, literally, or metaphorically, on his behalf, than on anyone else's. That, at least, suggests two things: a vehement devotion and a profound mystery. And mystery means not the inexplicable but the inexhaustible.

It also says something else: that, just as each of the evangelists has a partial picture, after two millennia of thought and study, we have made our Jesus too small by lopping off bits we find hard to understand or accept.

There are those who confine him to the Bible, saying that if some saying or incident is not there, it did not happen. But God did not send his son to write a book or to take a degree in theology. Christianity is not the religion of a thesis but of a person.

There are, too, those who try to trap him in their churches, preferably with enough stained glass to produce a dim religious light, in some vague belief he will be safe there. They forget the reaction of Jesus when Peter tried to guard him against crucifixion.

And there are some who want to keep him cosily encapsulated in all the plastic glitter that commercial hard-sell has insisted is essential for Christmas. Kitsch religious art is the salmonella of the soul. So as long as he is such a teddy-bear, meek, mild, pastel-coloured, he can keep the children peaceful. But he must not interfere with the pastimes of us grown-up.

On we go with our blind man's buff in the darkness that comprehended him not. "Before Abraham was, I am", said Jesus. He was the word of the Lord by which all things were made.

God made a world because he wanted people to love. They could not return that love unless they were also free to hate. These free wills proved hard for men to handle. They kept on wanting to do it their way. Things went from bad to worse. God's messengers, the prophets, were spurned. But God's consuming love for all the world, not only the good bits, would not let go. So he sent his son.

God in Christ accepted the captivity of a womb, all the agonies of being *human*, the ultimate of being crucified, so that a new element, a new Adam, could be introduced into a human race which had grown old and cold and weary.

By a life exposed to every temptation yet yielding to none, by an adamant refusal to compromise with evil, by utter openness to all, he not only set us an example; he offered us himself, including his strength.

God saw, approved and vindicated that sacrifice by raising Christ from the dead. The new Adam is now alongside the father of all creation.

At Christmastime it is right that we should bring him our gold and frankincense and myrrh. At Christmastime it is right that we should sing about peace on earth, for, though not yet realized, it is God's ineluctable will.

At Christmastime it is right that we should get together with family and friends and eat and drink and be merry. For God's own heart rejoices and is proud of what his son has done for all people.

So at Christmas, let joy on earth echo what Sir Thomas Browne called "the inextinguishable laughter of heaven".

The writer was formerly Rector of St Bride's, Fleet Street.



Trevor Nunn, joint artistic director of the Royal Shakespeare Company, using an acetylene torch to put the finishing touches to a plaque during the topping-out ceremony at the Swan Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon, yesterday. The 430-seat auditorium is being built within the main memorial theatre.

Archaeology

Repton skeletons likely to be Viking

By Norman Hammond, Archaeology Correspondent

Excavations around the Mercian royal mausoleum at Repton in Derbyshire have shed new light on the history of the site during the Anglo-Saxon period, and especially during the interlude of the Viking occupation of AD 874-875. A large collection of human remains originally identified as Saxons killed *in battle with the Vikings are now* thought to be the skeletons of Vikings.

The reassessment of the skeletal evidence came after a symposium of anatomists had examined the collection, originally excavated three years ago *The Times*, August 27, 1982): no sword cuts were found, and whatever the cause of death, it seems clear that none of the 249 individuals identified died in battle.

More that three quarters of the skeletons were those of tall, robust men, however, and the present hypothesis is that the remains are those of Vikings of the army of occupation encamped at Repton in 874-875 who died of disease. The dead would have been buried progressively during the winter, and then disinterred for a mass formal burial in a charnel house, where they were found in 1982.

This reburial of already decayed bodies would explain the lack of small bones from the hands and feet, a feature that had puzzled the excavators.

If the dead were not Vikings, but did not die by the sword, they could possibly have been Mercian prisoners drowned or hanged, or the monks of the Repton monastery similarly dispatched by the Viking invaders.

This year's excavations have clarified the sequence of events around the church of St Wystan, the crypt of which was the mausoleum of the Mercian kings in the eighth century. There is circumstantial evidence for an earlier church below the present nave: a substantial stone drain lying north of the crypt has been shown to be earlier than it, and presumably associated with an important building.

The next events were the construction of the crypt itself, and the central space above it, followed by the north porticus of the church. This has been dated to earlier than AD, 870-875 by the discovery of a grave, probably that of a Viking, wearing a gold ring and accompanied by five coins, two of them pennies of the Mercian king Burgred. The grave cuts the foundation trench of the porticus.

Dr Harold Taylor, who is directing the architectural study of the church while the excavations are conducted by Professor Martin Biddle and Mrs Birthe Kjobye-Biddle, proposed in 1974 that the crypt had been built for King *Aethelbald after his murder in AD, 757*, nearly a century before the canonized Wystan was also interred there. The evidence of the coins supports his thesis, and runs counter to a recent suggestion that Repton is only of tenth eleventh century date.

Of the same period as the grave, that of the Viking invasion and occupation, is the final use of an enigmatic building found below a mould in the vicarage garden. First excavated in 1982, the earliest levels of the sunken two-room structure were investigated this year. According to Professor Biddle, the interior was stuccoed, with relief mouldings which were probably of human figures. Such a decorative scheme would be unique for the period.

The building had glass windows, with a finial cross on the exterior. It may originally have been built as a mausoleum, some distance west of the royal crypt, and resistivity survey has shown that another building lies parallel just to the south.

Resistivity equipment has also been used to locate the eastern half *of the D-shaped Viking camp, which* curves inland from the Trent. The camp is known to have been 3.5 acres in area, and to have required the removal of 13,500 cubic yards of dirt, a task which Professor Biddle estimates would have taken 200 men five weeks to accomplish.

In the centre of the camp, running in from the river bank, a deep trench some 32 metres long and 10.6 metres wide has been found. So far it is more than three metres deep, and one possible interpretation is that it is a *naust*, a combination dry dock and *ship shed* found along the fjords of Scandinavia.

A cross-section of the Gokstad ship, a notable survival of this period from Scandinavia, has been erected in the Repton trench and found to have room to spare on both sides. The trench was eventually filled in during the twelfth century, probably during the reorganization of the site by Augustinian canons, who established a monastery at Repton between 1159 and 1175.

University news

Oxford
Professor Robert C. Darnton, professor of history at the University of Princeton, to be George Eastman visiting professor 1986–87.

Elections
ST EDMUND HALL
Official fellowship and tutorship in English from October 1, 1986: Lucy Ann Newlyn, MA, DPhil.
CHRIST CHURCH
Research lectureship: A J Turnerfield, BA (Clare College, Cambridge), A M Fox (Balliol College, Oxford).

Cambridge
Elections
ST JOHN'S COLLEGE
Honorary fellowships: Sir Bryan Carbridge, MA (St John's College) and Lord Griffiths, MA (St John's College).
Fellow commoner-ship for the Lent Term 1986: C H Wells, BA (University College London), head of the English department, Chelsea Girls' and Sidcup GS; Kenneth Cook, research award for 1985–86: Dr H F R Prechtl, Imsinga Ontwikkelings Neurologie, Groningen, The Netherlands; Harper-Wood studentship for English poetry and literature for 1985–86: Miss J H Kerslake, BA (Clare College).
Smith prize studentship for French studies: A Rogers, AB (Harvard), BA, LLM, PhD (St John's College) for 1986–87 and L Jacobs, B.1 (Queen's College) for 1986–87.
McMahon law studentships from July 1: C L Bradshaw, E J de Whalley, C F Edwards, E Field, K R McGuire, S J Neville, M N H Porter, A C Pearce, N Richards, R A Ross-Macdonald, J M A Surguy, I L M Young.
Rensfactory research studentships from October 1: D J W Gluthil, Hertzberg University and St John's College for theoretical physics, 14 Cantendio.

Conferments
The title of professor of perinatal pathology at the Royal Postgraduate Medical School on Jonathan Sennett Wigglesworth, BA, BChir, MB, MD, from October 1.
The title of professor of cell biology at the Institute of Cancer Research on Melvyn Francis Greaves, BSc, PhD, from October 1.

Appointments
James Rose to be reader in geography at Birkbeck College from October 1.

Conferment of title of reader
Surgery at the Guy's Campus of the United Medical and Dental Schools: Martin Henry Jourdon, BSc, MB, BS, from October 1; infectious diseases and immunological medicine at the Royal Postgraduate Medical School: John Gerald Patrick Sissons, MB, BS, MD, from October 1; radiotherapy at the Institute of Cancer Research: George Gordon Steel, BSc, PhD, DSc from June 1; Russian history at the School of Slavonic and East European Studies: Roger Paul Bartlett, BA, MA, DPhil from October 1; modern history at Birkbeck College: David Gordon Blackburn, BA, MA, PhD from October 1.

Heriot-Watt
Dr Patrick N. O'Farrell, reader in the department of town planning at the University of Wales Institute of Science and Technology, Cardiff, has been appointed to the professorship in the department of town and country planning at Heriot-Watt and Edinburgh College of Art. He will take up his appointment on July 1, 1986.

Sidney Sussex College
Research fellowships in class B from October 1, 1986: H J Burd, BA (Oxford), A L Lee, BA, research student of the college, N M O Callaghan, BA (University College, Dublin – Lasti research student of St John's College.

Trinity Hall
Open scholarship from October 1, 1985: G M Bercher, St Paul's Girls' School.

London
Appointments
Mr A D Beyerstand, BA, MA, FLIL to the chair of Spanish at Westfield College.
Karel Skorna, BA, MB, SCHir, MA, PhD, to the chair of clinical oncology at the Royal Postgraduate Medical School and St Mary's Hospital Medical School jointly from February 1.
Robert David Rubens, BSc, MB, BS, MD, to the Imperial Cancer Research Fund chair of clinical oncology at the Guy's Campus of the United Medical and Dental Schools.
Dr Paul Freeling, MD, BS, to the chair of general practice and primary care at St George's Hospital Medical School from September 1.

Conferments
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Royal birthday celebration

A gala show in honour of the Queen's sixtieth birthday is to be staged on April 21 at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden.

Mr Patrick Garland, the former artistic director of the Chichester Festival Theatre, will direct *A Fanfare for Elizabeth*.

Lord Lieutenant to retire

The Lord Lieutenant for Hertfordshire, Major-General Sir George Burns, is to retire on January 29 after 24 years a the Queen's representative in the county.

Latest appointments

Mr Derek Tonkin to be Ambassador to Thailand, in succession to Mr H. A. J. Staples who will be taking up a further Diplomatic Service appointment.

Dame Naomi James to be a trustee of the National Maritime Museum.

Mr James Pease-Watkin to be a Deputy Chairman of the Police Negotiating Board.

Thanksgiving year

The Dean and Chapter have announced a year of celebrations from October 1987 to mark the 750th anniversary of Peterborough Cathedral.

Science report

Biologists offer new theory on the evolution of milk

By Stephen Young

The accepted idea about the evolutionary pressures that gave rise to the production of milk by mammals for their young has been revised in a theory offered by recent research.

Milk is a complex cocktail of nutrients. Although a few birds, such as pigeons, emperor penguins and greater *flamingos*, secrete a *fluid* similar to milk from their gullets, true lactation from modified skin glands is the trade mark of the mammals.

But how did lactation *evolve? The question arouses* immense interest because the development of milk production must have demanded an integrated suite of evolutionary changes.

The female's anatomy and physiology had to adapt to her new role, while she evolved the biochemical wherewithal to synthesize ingredients for the milk. Behaviour also had to change, as suckling requires that mother and young act in a mutually accommodating fashion.

Such changes must have been of a gradual nature and so evolutionists, from Darwin onwards, have argued that lactation must have evolved from a much simpler, perhaps radically different, process.

Recently, two biologists from the United States have offered a new solution to the puzzle. Dr V. Hayssen, of Smith College, and Dr D. G. Blackburn, of Cornell University propose that the evolutionary *forerunner of milk was an* exudate designed to protect youngsters from infection by parasites, bacteria and fungi. Only later did it develop into the nourishing mixture it is today.

An important part of their evidence is the discovery that two of the many proteins in milk share a similar structure. One of the pair is *alpha lactalbumin*, an enzyme that plays a key role in the manufacture of lactose, which is the principal sugar of milk.

The other is a substance called lysozyme, which chemically attacks infectious agents and so acts as a general purpose bactericide and fungicide. *Lysozyme* is produced by a range of tissues and secreted in tears and saliva, as well as in milk.

The close resemblance between *alpha lactalbumin* and lysozyme is widely taken as evidence that the genes responsible for their construction share a common ancestry. The biologists speculate that the ancestral gene for lysozyme was duplicated, probably around 300 million years ago. The copy subsequently became modified into the gene for *alpha lactalbumin*.

Hayssen and Blackburn also point to the protective properties of present-day milk. In addition to lysozyme, milk contains a number of agents *that kill infectious* micro-organisms. For example, human milk is equipped with a substance that clears out intestinal parasites.

It seems that the distant ancestors of today's mammals may have developed protective secretions at an early date. Youngsters may have accidentally swallowed the exudate, setting the stage for the development of milk's nourishing qualities and the special features of suckling.

Source: *Evolution* vol 39, p1147.

OBITUARY

DR WALTER STILES

Studies in perception of colour

Dr W. S. Stiles, OBE, FRS, who died on December 15 at the age of 84, was a leading specialist in the science of visual perception.

After reading physics at University College, London, and mathematics at St John's College, Cambridge, he joined the National Physical Laboratory in 1925. He retired in 1961 with the rank of Deputy Chief Scientific Officer.

From 1928 to 1931 he served as General Secretary of the Commission Internationale de L'Eclairage. He was created OBE in 1946 for his wartime work on military aspects of visibility and glare.

He was elected to the Royal Society in 1957 and was awarded the Tillyer Medal of the *Optical Society of America* in 1965. His *Color Science* (1967, 1982), jointly written with the late Günter Wydzecki, remains the definitive handbook in the field of colour.

In the scientific study of visual perception it is often difficult to resist the temptation to argue from subjective sensations. Although Stiles was an accomplished amateur painter, and although he privately delighted in the richness of our internal palette, he was celebrated for his scrupulous avoidance of subjective judgements in his scientific work.

Rather, he drew his conclusions from the observer's ability to detect very faint targets or to discriminate accurately between slightly different wavelengths. By "psychophysical" measurements of this kind, he brilliantly analysed the retinal processes that are the *first stage in visual perception*.

He was central in establishing the modern view that all our experience of hue depends on just three kinds of "cone" receptor in the eye, the response of each type of cone depending on the rate at which it absorbs photons. He discovered (with B. H. Crawford) that the cones are direct

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THE TIMES

December 21-27, 1985

SATURDAY

A weekly guide to leisure, entertainment and the arts

The Times Quiz of the Year

Who, what, where, which in 1985? Check your memory in a holiday test compiled by **Robin Young** . . . for know-alls and all who enjoy a little brain-teasing

7 **How did the following make news:**
(1) John Trestrake?
(2) Ian Meadows?
(3) Anthony Mycock?
(4) Roger de Grey?
(5) Keri Hulme?
(6) Achille Lauro?
(7) Hans Tiedge?
(8) John Hamilton?
(9) Sant Harchand Singh Longowal?
(10) Dr Richard Livsey?
(11) Rajendra Sethia?
(12) Ray Honeyford?
(13) Major Nicholson?
(14) General Swareddahab?
(15) President Campomanes?
(16) Arne Treholt?
(17) Nabih Berri?
(18) Ramiz Alia?
(19) Peter Theodoracopulos?
(20) Gerry Healy?

(a) elected President of the Royal Academy (b) succeeded Enver Hoxha in Albania (c) shot in East Germany (d) negotiated release of hostages (e) imprisoned for trying to smuggle cocaine (f) Booker Prize winner (g) bankrupt with debts of £140 million (h) counter-intelligence defector (i) victor of Brecon and Radnor by-election (j) embattled headmaster (k) hijacked (l) deposed Numeiri (m) stopped chess championships (n) released after unsafe conviction (o) imprisoned for spying (p) leader of Liverpool City Council (q) Mastermind 1985 (r) assassination victim (s) alleged sexual misconduct (t) TWA pilot

2 **The Prime Minister described someone as "a cuckoo in the nest". Was he**
(a) Cecil Parkinson?
(b) Jeffrey Archer?
(c) President Mitterrand?
(d) The Bishop of Durham?
(e) Dr David Owen?

3 **A party leader helped rescue five stranded naval cadets. Was it**
(a) Mrs Thatcher?
(b) Neil Kinnock?
(c) David Steel?
(d) David Owen?
(e) Ian Paisley?

HOW TO PLAY

The Times Christmas Quiz is a bit more than fireside fun without being intended as mental torture. There are prizes of £250, £150 and £75 to be won for the first three entries found to be all correct or, failing that, for the three highest scorers. To enter, write the question numbers with the letter which precedes the answer you think is correct (e.g. 1. 1-a or 2.-a).

5 **What did the Prime Minister's bath have in common with Zandra Rhodes's spring and summer collection:**
(a) both exhibited at the Boilerhouse?
(b) both stolen?
(c) both made from same material, a by-product of North Sea oil?
(d) both coloured predominantly purple?

6 **A political figure made a "rap" record. Was it**
(a) Neil Kinnock?
(b) Dennis Skinner?
(c) Arthur Scargill?
(d) Derek Hatton?
(e) Bernie Grant?

7 **Is M-19**
(a) responsible for security vetting at the BBC?
(b) the Government's preferred measure of money supply?
(c) a group of Colombian guerrillas?
(d) a mountain?
(e) an Italian masonic lodge involved in scandal?

8 **The Prime Minister demanded that an artist retouch her portrait in oils which, she complained, made her look "too fierce". Did she want to be seen wearing**
(a) a softer hairdo?
(b) a small smile?
(c) pearl earrings?
(d) a headscarf?
(e) paler lipstick?

9 **How did the Bishop of Durham translate *nil desperandum illegitimi*?**
(a) Nobody who is illegitimate has need to despair.
(b) Nobody is desperate without some reason.
(c) Don't let the bastards get you down.

10 **Father Titus Brandsma became the first of his profession to be made a saint. Was he**
(a) a brandy distiller?
(b) a solicitor?
(c) a car mechanic?
(d) a journalist?

11 **A religious leader abandoned 92 Rolls-Royces. Was it**
(a) The Pope?
(b) The Archbishop of Canterbury?
(c) Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh?
(d) The Rev Syung Il Moon?
(e) L. Ron Hubbard?
(f) Moses David?
(g) The Moderator of the Church of Scotland?

12 **What are Catholics in Britain now permitted that they could not have before?**
(a) Marriage to their former mothers-in-law?
(b) Meat on Fridays?
(c) Bath Olivers?
(d) Wine at Mass?

13 **Sir Geoffrey Howe refused to meet a religious leader. Was it**
(a) Ayatollah Khomeini?
(b) The Bishop of Durham?
(c) The Bishop of Liverpool?
(d) The Assistant Bishop of Jerusalem?

14 **A pop star was helicoptered from a vessel in distress. Was he**
(a) Demis Roussos?
(b) Simon le Bon?
(c) George Michael?
(d) Boy George?

15 **Former SAS man Tom McLean won headlines by setting up camp on**
(a) Mount Everest?
(b) Big Ben?
(c) the Falklands airstrip?
(d) Rockall?
(e) Ayers Rock?

16 **Senator Jake Garn distinguished himself by**
(a) a record-breaking filibuster?
(b) being found guilty of fraud?
(c) becoming the first legislator to orbit the earth?
(d) abandoning a fact-finding visit to South Africa?
(e) being photographed in a compromising position?

17 **In which championships was the winner of the senior event 10 months younger than the winner of the junior:**
(a) British Open golf?
(b) British snooker, Sheffield?
(c) Lawn tennis, Wimbledon?
(d) Badminton Horse Trials?
(e) British crown green bowls, Eastbourne?

18 **It was revealed in Parliament that the proportion of the adult population with their names on the police computer for notifiable offences is:**
(a) one third?
(b) one tenth?
(c) one fiftieth?
(d) one in a hundred?

19 **Who spotted a subliminal Spitting Image on TV:**
(a) Mrs Whitehouse?
(b) Mrs Gillick?
(c) Lord Longford?
(d) Norris McWhirter?
(e) David Frost?

20 **Which soap opera cost a company chief his job:**
(a) Dallas?
(b) Dynasty?
(c) EastEnders?
(d) Coronation Street?

21 **Last came first in the Grand National. Was it**
(a) Last Resort?
(b) Last Chance?
(c) Last Suspect?
(d) Last Home?



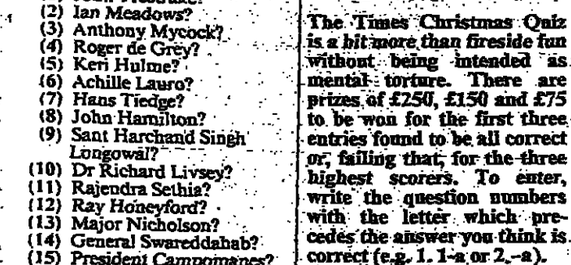
23 **Is this figure at a 1985 equestrian event**
(a) Lester Piggott celebrating retirement?
(b) Princess Anne on a bad day?
(c) Steve Cauthen before drying out?
(d) Harvey Smith in fine form?
(e) Princess Michael of Kent avoiding the press?



24 **Is the Prince of Wales**
(a) visiting a San Francisco club?
(b) breakdancing at Middleton-on-Sea?
(c) addressing British architects?
(d) silencing a press reporter?
(e) demonstrating homoeopathic therapy?



25 **Does this photograph show the Queen**
(a) welcoming guests at a Commonwealth banquet?
(b) with the chairman of Times Newspapers?
(c) toasting a winner?
(d) toasting a foreign President?
(e) at the Queen Mother's 85th birthday party?



4 **Was this photograph taken at:**
(a) Brixton?
(b) Toxteth?
(c) Tottenham?
(d) Handsworth?
(e) Madame Tussaud's?
(f) Glyndebourne?

How can you enjoy your Christmas knowing what hers will be like?

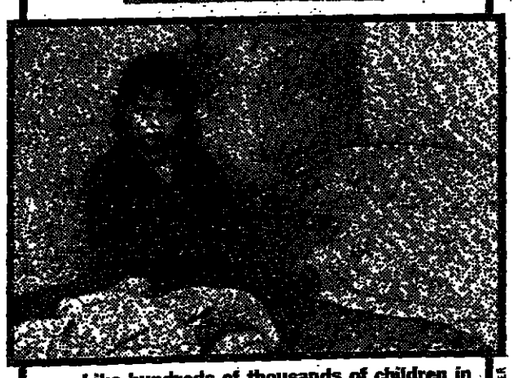


PHOTO: IAN POWELL

Like hundreds of thousands of children in Britain, the girl in the picture above will be spending Christmas in conditions that can create family tensions, physical hardship and worse.

Every year The Children's Society helps thousands of such children.

For every child we help, however, there are many we can't.

Your donation this Christmas would help us to help even more children.

Please send your donations to: Church of England Children's Society, Freepost, London SE11 4BR.

Name

Address

Amount £

We're grateful for your donation but to save us money we will not send a receipt unless you tick this box. ☐

Access/Barclaycard

The Children's Society. Needed now more than ever.

26 **Which sold for most:**
1. (a) The Beatles' hand-painted Rolls-Royce?
(b) A Faberge gold egg made for Czar Nicholas II?
2. (a) Van Gogh's "Landscape with Rising Sun"?
(b) Giorgio de Chirico's "The Uncertainty of the Poet"?
(c) Guido Reni's "David with the head of Goliath"?
(d) Mantegna's "Adoration of the Magi"?
(e) "La Clownesse Cha-u-kao" by Toulouse-Lautrec?
3. (a) The Red Ensign which wrapped Nelson?
(b) Jack Hobbs's record-making cricket bat?
(c) James Joyce's death mask?



27 **What does this picture show? Is it**
(a) the set for Prince William's school nativity play?
(b) Viscount Linley's carpentry templates?
(c) security arrangements at Athens airport?
(d) Mr Dikko's Nigerian dispatch box?
(e) part of the Treasures of Country Houses exhibition en route to Washington?

28 **Sultan bin Salman Abdul Aziz al-Saud**
(a) bought Harrods?
(b) was the diplomat expelled after squatting in a London family's flat?
(c) flew in space?
(d) donated money to striking miners?
(e) negotiated for the release of the hostages in Lebanon?

29 **Which sort of vehicle was it established in court in 1985 does not need an MoT certificate:**
(a) a crane?
(b) an agricultural tractor?
(c) a Sinclair C-5?
(d) a Centurion tank?
(e) a hearse?

30 **Geraldine Ferraro was paid $500,000 for**
(a) agreeing not to run again?
(b) her memoirs?
(c) a Pepsi-Cola advertisement?
(d) alimony?
(e) her home?

31 **The Inland Revenue failed in its attempt to tax a speculator who had made £100,000 on the Stock Exchange. Was it because he was**
(a) an Eton schoolboy?
(b) resident on Radio Laser in the North Sea?
(c) a prisoner?
(d) a Syrian diplomat?
(e) a dog?

32 **Whose chief minister was convicted of drug offences:**
(a) Turks and Caicos Islands?
(b) Bermuda?
(c) Isle of Man?
(d) Seychelles?
(e) Papua-New Guinea?

33 **What are these headline-hitting places:**
(1) Mururoa?
(2) Bitburg?
(3) Nevado del Ruiz?
(4) Heysel?
(5) Littlecote?
(6) The Wellington?
(7) Broadwater Farm?
(8) Northaird Point?
(9) Corton Wood?
(10) Knock?

(a) volcano (b) colliery (c) country house (d) airport (e) nuclear test site (f) military cemetery (g) council estate (h) stadium (i) tower block (j) Prime Minister's house.

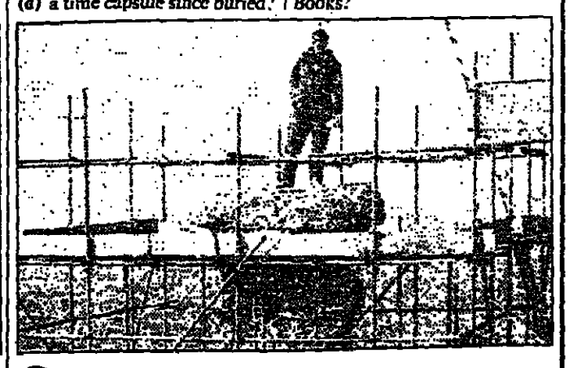
34 **The President of which country**
(1) died before he could be inaugurated?
(2) resigned in protest at constitutional changes?
(3) resigned because he was an alcoholic?
(4) renamed a Princess and was reported by his son for *Playboy*?
(5) demanded that computer vocabulary be in his own language?
(6) made his last public appearance when being presented with credentials as a parliamentary deputy?

(a) Soviet Union (b) USA (c) Brazil (d) France (e) Singapore (f) Greece.



35 **Is David Attenborough showing**
(a) a jar of humbugs?
(b) a jar of emu droppings?
(c) a World Wildlife Fund collecting box?
(d) a time capsule since buried?

36 **Does this show work in progress at**
(a) the fire-ravaged church of York Minster?
(b) the Angel Falls, Venezuela?
(c) the Devil's Chimney, Cheltenham?
(d) a remote look-out post on the Hong Kong-China border?
(e) the leaning tower of Hackney?
(f) a Pyrenean rock sculpture?



37 **Sorting out the Russians: who's who?**
(1) Oleg Popov
(2) Victor Popov
(3) Viktor Karpov
(4) Anatoly Karpov
(5) Vladimir Leontev
(6) Eduard Shevardnadze
(7) Vitaly Yurchenko
(8) Nikolai Ryzhkov
(9) Andrei Gromyko
(10) Andrei Sakharov
(11) Yuri Sobol
(12) Oleg Gordievsky

(a) Defected spymaster in Britain (b) Double defector back in USSR (c) Deposed chess champion (d) President (e) Prime Minister (f) Ambassador in Britain (g) Dissident physicist (h) Foreign minister (i) Sleeping refugee (j) Star clown of Moscow State Circus (k) Arms limitation negotiator (l) Soviet boy given heart surgery in Britain.

38 **Was the most famous of Ireland's moving religious statues, damaged by vandals, at**
(a) Ballinspittle?
(b) Spitlinball?
(c) Courtmacspittle?
(d) Spitlasdee?
(e) Ballyspottle?

39 **Which member of the Royal Family**
(1) was awarded a literary prize for a short story?
(2) flew around Britain in Concorde?
(3) became a scholastic cygnet?
(4) dined on gibnut?
(5) came sixth in the Mademoiselle Stakes?
(6) had part of a lung removed?
(7) opened a roadside café?
(8) had three etchings and two lithographs sold at Christies?
(9) performed a historic feat at Morecambe Bay?
(10) was rescued after falling off a windsurfer?
(11) photographed the photographer from *The Times*?
(12) found a new use for a necklace?

(a) The Queen (b) The Duke of Edinburgh (c) Prince Charles (d) Prince Andrew (e) The Princess of Wales (f) Prince William (g) Princess Margaret (h) The Queen Mother (i) Princess Michael of Kent (j) Prince Michael of Kent (k) Queen Victoria (l) Princess Anne

40 **Of famous men who died in 1985, who was**
(1) The Man in Black?
(2) The Third Man?
(3) creator of The Man Who Never Was?
(4) The Big Man?
(5) creator of the comic character Dan Dare?
(6) A Hull librarian and *Daily Telegraph* jazz critic?
(7) Albert Steptoe?
(8) the voice of Donald Duck?
(9) The Go-Between?
(10) born Terry Parsons and started his recording career as Fred Flange?
(11) wrote 49 years' Note Books?
(12) played his own namesake in a long-running Diary?
(13) entertained 1,791 castaways?
(14) re-established the vine in England?
(15) went for a song?

(a) Sir Michael Redgrave (b) Philip Larkin (c) Clarence Nash (d) Sir Arthur Bryant (e) Valentine Dyall (f) Arthur Negus (g) Frank Hampson (h) Matt Monro (i) James Dale (j) Jock Stein (k) Wilfrid Brambell (l) Roy Plomley (m) Orson Welles (n) Ewen Montagu (o) Sir Guy Salisbury-Jones.

41 **Of women who died in 1985, who**
(1) was preferred to Marlene Dietrich for Pandora's Box?
(2) was posthumously oversubscribed 34 times?
(3) wrote *Nostalgia isn't what it used to be*?
(4) chronicled Food in England?
(5) was Meg Richardson at the Crossroads?

(a) Noele Gordon (b) Laura Ashley (c) Louise Brooks (d) Dorothy Hartley (e) Simone Signoret.



42 **Whose hand and glove is shown here?**
(a) the Queen's?
(b) Nancy Reagan's?
(c) the Prime Minister's?
(d) Danny la Rue's?
(e) Barbara Cartland's?

Entries must include full names and addresses. Send them to: Prize Quiz, The Times, 12 Coley Street, London WC99 9YT, to arrive by the last post on Wednesday January 8. The winner will be announced on January 18.



22 **What does this photograph show? Is it**
(a) a Beirut shoot-out?
(b) a hunt for espionage agents Down Under?
(c) a scene from *The War Game*, first seen on British television this year?
(d) gatecrashers at the Washington ball attended by the Prince and Princess of Wales?

SATURDAY

Entertainment on a grand scale: Jumbo Crossword p14 and star-studded TV film guide p18

Bookings	17	Drink	15	Opera	17	Rock & Jazz	17
Bridge	13	Eating Out	13	Outings	13	Shopping	14
Chess	13	Films	17	Photography	17	Television	18
Concerts	17	Galleries	17	Review	15	Theatre	17
Dance	17	Gardening	14	Radio	18	Travel	12,13

Cream tip No 30

Add a touch of festive spirit to the cream.

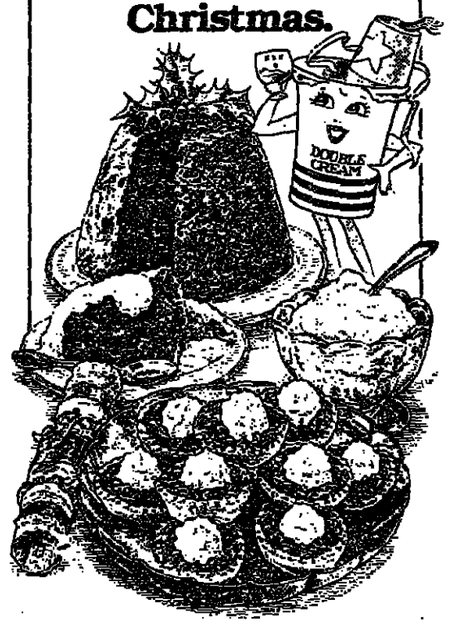
Three Kings Cream.

Christmas pudding just wouldn't be right without a special topping of cream, laced with festive spirit.

Whip 150 ml (¼ pint) Double Cream until stiff. Fold in a tablespoon of sifted icing sugar and two tablespoons of port, brandy or sherry. (Serves 4-6).

Happy Christmas and a... Merry New Year.

Get fresh with the cream this Christmas.



Edited by Shona Crawford Poole

TRAVEL

The tiny Himalayan kingdom of Bhutan is a storehouse of ancient treasures and traditions – and it guards them well

In search of the Thunder Dragon

BACK OF BEYOND

In the second of his series about far-flung places, Michael Watkins finds his way to the forbidden land of Bhutan, where Western visitors must ask the King's permission before exploring at will: a place for seasoned travellers

Neither fools, angels, nor Alexander Pope himself could rush, tread or bamboozle their way into the remote Kingdom of Bhutan. Taken at face value Bhutan – more correctly Druk Yul, Land of the Thunder Dragon – is arguably among the least welcoming of countries. Western ways fill them with horror. They regard us as we once regarded the Black Death, as lethally contagious.

Until recently, Bhutan was manacled to its feudal past. The wheel, though known, was virtually unused for there were no roads. Even today only 8 per cent of the people have access to safe water. Healing is provided by *serkup*, the witchdoctor's craft, in preference to modern medicine. They are yesterday's people.

When Tibet was annexed by China in 1959, King Jigme Dorje Wangchuck realized that his dynastic policy of isolation was obsolete. There was one way out and he took it: by linking arms with India. Bhutan made the first tentative, yet irreversible gestures towards the west. Borrowing massively, a road was constructed by forced labour whereby one man in every family was conscripted, leading from the Indian border at Phuntsholing to Paro and the capital, Thimphu. Not only did this road introduce commerce and an Indian Army "presence", it also generated the new smokeless industry of tourism, permitting the likes of you and me to roam this unimaginably beautiful land.

That is the facile interpretation. The whole truth is less devious than subtle for although tourists are allowed to enter, only 2,000 a year may do so – slightly fewer than four *and a half persons a day*. They are promptly relieved of $20 at Phuntsholing, with the imposition of a minimum levy of $130 per day for board and lodging.

Once the complex and infuriating immigration procedure is over, you are welcomed with heart-rending charm, which extends as far as Paro, Thimphu and the ancient capital of Punakha. The rest of the "forbidden kingdom" is still out of bounds without the express permission of the young king, His Majesty Jigme Singye Wangchuck.

In theory it is possible, three times a week, to fly Thunder Dragon Air 17-seaters from Calcutta to Bhutan's sole air-strip at Paro; the trick being for the pilot, without such refinements as radar or candles in jam-jars, to chance his luck at the precise moment when Himalayan mists have not obliterated all trace of the destination.

My own method of entry was long-winded: via Bagdogra, Darjeeling, through Sikkim to Gangtok. It involved landslips, near-arrest for being in possession of a camera at an inopportune moment, and a dawn glimpse of Kinchin. On the fifth evening I arrived at Phuntsholing. If you will forgive the distinction, Bhutan is for seasoned travellers rather than casual tourists of the drop-in persuasion.

Facts: 1,200,000 people, mostly Mahayan Buddhists, speaking *dzongka*, *sharchop kha* and *khan kha*, live in an area of 18,000 square miles. With luck they go on living for 43 years, plus a bonus of 49 days after their hearts stop beating, when they are still offered food, beverage

Geoffrey Sims





Country living: a settlement near Simtokha. There are few roads in Bhutan

and constant companionship. There is a 10 per cent literacy rate, an infant mortality rate of 147 per 1,000 live births. There are three hotels thought "fit" for Westerners; the capital has one pagoda-shaped petrol-station; archery is the national sport and post is delivered by runners armed with spears as protection against bears and snow-leopards.

> 'I ate rice and stewed yak, helped clear a rock fall in a storm, and caught a cold'

Diarrhoea kills, as do leprosy and black-magic curses applied by antagonists in family feuds. After Kampuchea the World Bank rates Bhutan as the second poorest country on earth, so it is not surprising that the staple diet is rice and chilli peppers; by the same token it is paradoxical that tipping is forbidden and beggars unknown. Credit-cards, pornography, television and bad-manners are as alien to the Bhutanese as deodorants were to Neanderthal Man.

To the north rise the Himalayas, southern buttress to the Tibetan plateau. To the east live the Sharchops, Indo-Mongoloid by origin; Ngalops, descendants of 9th-century Tibetan settlers, occupy the west. In the tropical south, dense with bamboo, rhododendron and magnolia, haunt of elephant, tiger and rhinoceros, live people of Nepalese extract. Everyone, from king to most lowly subject, wears national costume, a long robe tied about the waist, *kho* for men, *kira* for women. Only the colour of the scarf – saffron for the king, white for commoners, with various hues for sacred or secular prestige – signifies rank. From a pouch at the front, men offer *doma*, betel nut, as a customary greeting.

There wasn't enough time, just seven days – which I spent on tourist buses and on foot. There were things I did and things I was prevented from doing. With every other passenger I turned out of the bus in torrential rain to clear a rock-fall, heaving and shoving boulders over a precipitous drop. I ate rice and stewed yak, rather enjoying it; I was prevented from reading by *power-cuts and mandatory lights-out* at 11pm. I caught a vile cold (without exception the entire population had colds and runny noses), and the smell of yak cheese made me heave.

Apart from Thimphu, little bigger than an English village, there were no towns as such; living settlements followed the valleys, each dominated by *dzongs*, castle-monasteries, constructed without 'architectural' plans or nails from mud and rubble, bound by animal-glue, yet achieving both majesty and elegance, power and glory. Prayer was vibrant, you felt it surging about. Novice monks, as young as five, learnt by rote, their teachers snapping leather-thonged whips. Squatting among monks at

TRAVEL NOTES

Tourist season is March to November. Swan Hellenic offer 20-day art treasure tours to Orissa, Sikkim and Bhutan accompanied by guest lecturers for £2,150 plus a single room supplement of £14 a night. This includes all meals (except lunch in Delhi), economy flights on the international route as well as *internal in India, overland travel by car or coach*, hotels, all gratuities, taxes and service charges. It does not include Bhutanese entry permits of about £14.50 and personal services. Swan Hellenic Art Treasure Tours, Canberra House, 47 Middlesex Street, London E1 7AL (01-247 0401).
Clothes: provide for extremes of heat, chill and wet. Pack a torch (power-cuts are of epidemic proportion), mosquito repellent, stomach settlers.
Warnings: movie and video cameras prohibited, as is the purchase of religious and antique artifacts.

devotion I did not experience rejection. No one rebuffed overtures of curiosity or friendship, and no one made demands in return. Everything was given; nothing was for sale. They are yesterday's people – but for how long?

If you ever get there, a brief inventory of great sights might be useful. Paro, first: Rinchen Pung Dzong, treasure-house of scrolls, icons, manuscripts; Kyichu-Lakhang Monastery, dating from the 7th century. Thimphu: Chorten Stupa; Simtokha Dzong; Tashichho Dzong; the Royal Palace. To reach the ancient capital of Punakha, situated where the rivers Pho Chu and Mo Chu meet to form the Sankosh, you cross the Dochu La Pass at 10,218 feet, descending to the *dzongs* of Punakha and Wangdiphodrang.

At Punakha the way ahead was barred to foreigners. Don't ask why, you know the answer: because we spoil things. Open the door a fraction and the hinges will be torn off. If this is Bhutan's dilemma, it will also be her tragedy.

In Paro dangerous Himalayan mist prevented me from attempting the ascent by mule to Taktsang Monastery where, in 1954, the guru landed on the back of a tiger. You can see it from the valley, clinging to shear rock-face, eight hours' trek during which a German recently fell 3,000 feet to his death.

I was serenely happy, simply because it would have been perverse to remain unaffected by the Thunder-Dragon's benign spirit. High altitudes and beauty were the twin intoxicants which induced instant delirium; there was nothing tawdry, defiled or unbeautiful. Synthetic food had not arrived; nor cynicism.

Marilyn Silverstone/Magnum



Pray school: young monks at Thimphu

also on page 16

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NATIONAL GALLERY, Trafalgar Square, London WC2. 01-839 3321. CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR OPENING hrs as usual. Gallery 2 painting video. Adm free. Mon-Sat 10-6, Sun 2-6. Closed 24, 25, 26 Dec. & 1 Jan.
NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY, St Martin's Place, London WC2. Tel: 01-930 1552. Hallelujah Handel. A celebration of his life and times. Until 23 Feb. Mon-Fri 10-5, Sat 10-6, Sun 2-6. Adm £2. Closed 24, 25, 26 Dec & 1 Jan.
PICCADILLY GALLERY 16 Cork St, W1. 629 2875. THE BROTHER-HOOD OF RURALISTS AND FRIENDS – THE CONTINUING TRADITION". 26 Nov-28 Dec Mon-Fri 10-5.30, Sats 10-12.30.
RAFAEL VALLS GALLERY, 6 Ryder Street, London, SW1. 01 930 0029. Tremayne Rose paintings. Hidden Gt. Rooms. 383 Oxford Road. 18th-19th Cent. Mon-Fri 9.30-7pm.
ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS Burlington House, Piccadilly 01 734 9052. GERMAN ART IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY Closing 22nd December Open 10-5 daily inc Sunday Adm £3.50, £2.00 cost rate. Reduced rate on Sunday until 1.45pm
SERPENTINE GALLERY (Arts Council) Kensington Gdns, London W2. Recorded info 01-723 9072. YOLANDA SONNABEND: Stage Design & Paintings. Until 5 Jan. Tues-Sat 10-6, Adm free. Closed 24, 25, 26 Dec & 1 Jan.
TATE GALLERY, Millbank SW1. KURT SCHWITTERS. Until 5 Jan. Adm £2.50. Open Mon-Sat 10-5.50, Sun 2-5.50. Closed 24, 25, Dec & 1 Jan. Recorded Info. 01-821 7128.
THE QUEEN'S GALLERY Buckingham Palace, Pelmall. Tues-Sat 10-5.00. Sun 2.00-5.00. Adm 50p & £1.
VICTORIA AND ALBERT MUSEUM – The National Museum of Design, Cromwell Road, London. 589 6371. Open Mon-Sat 10-5. Sun 2.30-6. Adm free. Closed Dec24, 25 & 26 and Jan 1.

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THE TIMES Christmas Deadlines

Advertising for the issues of:
Friday, 27th & Saturday, 28th December 1985
Must be placed by 4.30 on Monday, 23rd December
Alterations and cancellations for the above issues must be made by 2 pm on Friday, 20th December

Advertising for the issue of:
Thursday, 2nd January 1986
*Must be placed by 4.30 pm on Tuesday

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TRAVEL

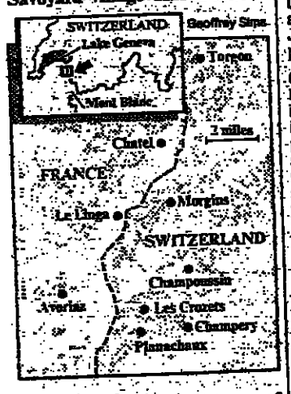
Across new skiing frontiers

A hundred and more years ago, they were the secret tracks of smugglers. During the last war, they offered escape routes from occupied France. Today, the labyrinth of alpine paths between Mont Blanc and Lake Geneva forms part of the Portes du Soleil, one of Europe's biggest ski playgrounds.

Elements of adventure, even of danger, still remain, like much else that seems little changed in the region. It takes a glimpse of the tricolour through a clump of pines, or a white cross on red fluttering from a distant cabin to remind you that, yet again, you have skied from one country into its neighbour.

The network consists of eight resorts in France and six in Switzerland, together providing over 600 kilometres of prepared piste, connected by 170 lifts. Yet vast though it is, the area has not yet drawn the hordes of skiers who take over comparable attractions, such as the Trois Vallées.

Even the biggest of the Portes du Soleil resorts, Chatel, has managed to survive looking and feeling much like the ancient Savoyard village that it is. It's



within easy ski-ing distance of Avoriaz, but a different world from its fellow's purpose-built, multi-storey barracks.

Chatel is probably the best introduction to the Portes. Small enough to have its own intimacy and charm, but with plenty of good hotels, apartments and restaurants, it has two good ski areas of its own, at Super-Chatel, above the village, and at Le Linga, a short bus ride along the valley.

Its bonus, though, is as a starting point for touring the main Portes du Soleil circuit, an outing of tremendous fun and variety. It can be done either anti-clockwise, ski-ing into and out of Avoriaz, Les Crozets, Planachaux, Champery, Champoussin, Morgins and back to Super-Chatel, or clockwise towards Morgins.

Some of the scenery is majestic. The views from above Torgon, for instance, across the Rhone valley and down towards Lake Geneva, are unforgettable.

Anyone with only a few years' experience can negotiate the entire circuit. The only danger point is the formidable descent from Avoriaz towards Planachaux. Locals call it simply the Swiss Wall, others refer to it more dramatically as the Widowmaker – and indeed it has taken its toll of casualties.

My visit lasted only a week. Twice as long will not be enough to discover all the promise of the Portes du Soleil, and a second trip seems almost mandatory.

Thomson Prentice

TRAVEL NOTES

Vacances Franco-Britanniques Ltd (VFB) 1 St Margaret's Terrace, Cheltenham, Glos GL50 4 DT (0242 526338) organize holidays in Chatel. Travelling by ferry and car, an apartment for two for a week costs £190 per person. Four sharing costs £123; two weeks for two is £311, or for four people, £184 each. By plane from Gatwick, a week for two is £250, or £190 with four sharing; two weeks is £370 for a couple, £250 for four self catering.

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CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY OUTINGS

Pleasure chest

From morris men and museum trails to puppet shows and parties, Judy Froshaug rounds up treats across the country that are guaranteed to tempt the family away from toys and television

Donald Cooper



Witch way: spellbinding cast of the Meg and Mog Show at London's Unicorn Theatre

ONCE UPON A TIME: Quiz sheets based on paintings and sculpture from the collections. Two versions – one for young children, one for older.
Walker Art Gallery, William Brown Street, Liverpool, Merseyside (051 2275234). Mon, Dec 28–31, Jan 2–5. Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2-5pm. Free.

CHRISTMAS AT THE NATIONAL THEATRE: Treasure trail with clues relating to this year's NT Christmas programme – BBC2 computer as prize, entries in by Jan 31; Rupert Bear exhibition in the foyer; story-telling by Roald Dahl in the Lyttelton on Fri at 6pm.
National Theatre, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 2252). Trail and exhibition from today through January. Free. Roald Dahl performance £2. Book in advance.

CHRISTMAS FANCY DRESS PARTY: Theme for the fancy dress is the Christmas story, however interpreted: Games, entertainment party food and a lamp-lit carol singing procession.
Quarry Bank Mill, Styal, Cheshire (0625 527468). For children 5-13 years. Today, 2-5pm. Tickets £3.50.

PUPPET PERFORMANCES AND WORKSHOP: Extensive programme of events supporting the museum's major exhibition – The Magical World of Puppets. Today, The Theatre of Shadows – fusion of European and Arabic music and stories with shadow puppet. On Monday, a "Puppets from India" workshop plus Indian stories.
Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, Chamberlain Square (021-235 4201). Today at 11.30am, and 2pm; Mon, workshop 10.30am-noon, stories 2-3.30pm. Free but arrive early.

COOKERY WORKSHOP: Children can make sweets, candies and containers, followed by a museum talk about Christmas fare. Seasonal puzzle sheets with which to explore the museum.
Geffrye Museum, Kingsland Road, London E2 (01-739 8368). Workshop today from 10am. Talk this afternoon from 2.30pm. Puzzle sheets Fri, Dec 28, 31, Jan 2–4. Museum open. Tues–Sat 10am–5pm, Sun 2–5pm. Admission and all events free.

COVENT GARDEN ENTERTAINMENTS: *Toe on the Line*, a theatre/circus performance with acrobats, body puppets, masks and mime. *The Beanstalk in the Garden* – buskers' piazza pantomime performed by many of the Garden's most popular street entertainers.
Covent Garden, London WC2. *Toe on the Line* today, tomorrow at 1pm; *The Beanstalk* today 1.30pm, tomorrow 2.30pm. Both free.

CHRISTMAS AT THE NATIONAL GALLERY: Mystery quiz for all and "Jingle Bells" quiz for children – a lighthearted search for bells in paintings. There is also a 25-minute video on the Nativity, illustrated by Old Masters and manuscripts, to a musical accompaniment of medieval carols and songs.
National Gallery, Trafalgar Square, London WC2 (01-839 3321). Today Mon; Fri- Dec 31, Jan 2-5 Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 2-6pm. Free.

IMPERIAL WAR TRAIL: Simple quiz for children following a prescribed route through the museum, asking children to seek and identify a variety of exhibits. Completed, the quiz imparts a Christmas message.
Imperial War Museum, Lambeth Road, London SE1 (01-735 8922). Today, Mon, Fri-Dec 31, Jan 2-5. Mon-Sat 10am-5.50pm, Sun 2-5.50pm. Free.

MEG AND MOG SHOW: Musical play, based on books by Helen Nicholl and Jan Pienkowski, that tells the story of a lovable but eccentric witch who gets all her spells wrong.
Unicorn Theatre, Great Newport Street, London WC2 (01-836 3334). Until Jan 26.

JUNIOR NFT REQUESTS: Six of the most popular films requested by children include *The Prince and the Pauper*, tomorrow, 4pm; *The Slipper and the Rose*, Dec 28, 4pm, *Robin and the Seven Hoods*, Dec 29, 4pm. Also a series of Fleischer Brothers' animations – *Out of the Inkwell* – and others, today at 4pm; tomorrow and Mon, 6.15pm, Dec 28, 6.40pm, Dec 29-31, 6.15pm. Today's special event is Lear's Magical Lanterns, a parlour show with live musical accompaniment featuring hundreds of hand-painted Victorian slides; for junior audiences at 2.30pm, adults 5pm.
National Film Theatre, South Bank, London SE1. Box office (01-928 3232). All performances adults £2.50, £2 on day, child £1.25. Weekly membership 70p covers two people.



Balanced view: thrills at the circus (see Gerry Cottle)

THE BLACK PIRATE: The 1926 classic, swashbuckling silent movie starring Douglas Fairbanks in a new 35mm print, with live accompaniment on the piano.
ICA Children's Cinema, The Mall, London SW1 (01-930 3647). Today-Mon, Fri Jan 31, Jan-2-5. All performances 3pm. Adult £3, child £1.50, to include free club membership.

SNOWBALL DAYS: Tricycle Theatre offers opportunities for children to watch a show, have lunch, then join in a workshop in the afternoon. Next week, Adrian Heedley in *Jigsaw Pieces*, a visual comedy based on his award winning television series with Magus Theatre – a mime and mask workshop in the afternoon: Jan 3, 4, the Theatre of Thelema in *Money Tree*, a story, followed by workshop. Other shows during the holiday period.
Tricycle Theatre, 269 Kilburn High Road, London NW6 (01-328 8626). Mon, Tues, Jan 3, 4, 11.30am-4pm. For children up to 10 years, £3-£3.50 per day. Booking essential.

GERRY COTTLE'S CIRCUS: Clowns, trapeze artists, the "smallest strong man in the world", the American "wheel of death" and other spectacular acts. Also an elephant, yak and exotic cattle.
Camden Lock, Chalk Farm Road, London W1. Box office (01-267 2534). Today until Jan 5 (except Dec 25). Performances at 2.30pm and 7.30pm. Adult £4, child £2.

PUNCH & JUDY SHOWS: Professor Percy Press II at Heals Toy Fair, Tottenham Court Road, London W1 (01-636 1666). Today at noon, 1pm, 2pm. Free. The Professor will also be giving regular shows at Madame Tussaud's, Marylebone Road, London NW1 (01-935 6861) between 11.30am-3.30pm, Mon Jan 12, except Dec 25. Free with admission to Tussauds, Adult £3.30, child £1.85. John Styles gives three performances at the Barbican Centre Foyer, Silk Street, London EC2 (01-638 4141) on Dec 27 at 12.30, 1.30, 2.30pm. Free.

CELEBRATION: Music and dancing of a traditional English kind with morris men, bell ringers, bands, carol singing and a torchlight procession.
Piece Hall, Halifax, West Yorkshire (0422 59454). Tomorrow.

EATING OUT

Where to go the whole Hogmanay

Stan Hey suggests a variety of venues for a feast on New Year's Eve

Just when you thought it was safe to go back on the bathroom scales, along comes New Year's Eve. I suppose the Scots have always had the correct approach – if you're going to reform on January 1, you might as well have a major blow-out beforehand.

Just such an occasion, albeit a civilized and stylish one, is on offer at **Balcraig House**, an elegant 18th-century country seat voted best New Scottish Hotel in 1984 by the Automobile Association.

Balcraig's Hogmanay Gala Banquet extends to seven courses and will centre around wild boar, either roasted or casseroled. The house raises boar and beef on its own estate, so quality control could not be more direct. The traditional midnight festivities will include pipers and the giving of "black bun" (a rich, raisin and sultana fruit cake, encased in pastry) to first-footers. The meal costs £35 a head, but does not include access to Balcraig's collection of more than a hundred malt whiskies.

The Caledonian influence is, of course, felt south of the Border on this special night, one of the reasons why **The Black Swan**, set handsomely in glowering Cumbrian hills, includes a course of haggis, "neeps" and "tatties" on its supremely good value New Year Dinner. For just £12.50 a five-stage dinner is offered, with dancing upstairs in the hotel's ballroom afterwards.

The menu offers apple, celery and tomato soup, a fresh salmon-and-scallop mousse, thinly-sliced, smoked Cumberland ham, local beef roasted with a bordelaise sauce, and honey and whisky creams or chocolate marquise.

Old Hatfield may be more suburban, but I would imagine pangs of Spartan guilt may well be in order after revellers have sampled Julian Waterer's ravishing five-course menu at **The Salisbury**. For £27.50 he is offering guests a multiple choice menu. Starters include warm *foie gras* with a salad of sweet pears, and a terrine of fresh asparagus, with mushrooms, herbs and tangy tomato dressing.

After a champagne sorbet, his main courses will include breast of pheasant, stuffed with a duckling and pistachio nut mousse, and fillet of veal in rosemary and honey, served on a bed of spinach with Sauternes sauce. Desserts feature chestnut ice-cream with fresh strawberries and grapes poached in syrup, set in a puff pastry "creel", and a three-fruit mould set with almond paste and served on a plum purée. There are also cheeses and *petits-fours*.

Of course, one way to purge the soul and body and have a good time doing it is to go for one of the many New Year's Eve dinner dances. The celebrations at the **Hyatt Carlton Tower** promise to be livelier than most, as the evening is structured around a Caribbean carnival. The £79-a-head charge includes rum cocktails, a five-course dinner and a non-stop ear-bashing from a couple of bands, including the inevitable steel-drum outfit.

Most of the London hotels will also be offering reduced-price accommodation for dinner guests who shouldn't really be driving. The extra expense may well be worthwhile.

Among a variety of London restaurants offering New Year dinners, three distinctly different styles might be worth considering. **Il Passetto**, a well-regarded "theatre" restaurant, will offer liveliness and a reasonably-priced five-course dinner with coffee. Crab cocktail, tortellini in brodo, halibut mornay, roast baby chicken and fruit salad are the dishes for £24.50, excluding service.

A traditional French evening is promised at **Chez Solange** where an accordionist and a pianist will serenade diners tucking into such strapping classics as chicken supreme with fresh asparagus, grilled tournedos with *béarnaise* sauce and venison steaks in pepper sauce. Meals cost £33.50.

A lighter touch is likely at **Bates**, a modern Franco-English restaurant in Covent Garden. Their New Year's Eve menu seems to strike an admirable balance between invention, tradition and lightness. Courses of lobster terrine, Aberdeen Angus beef in truffle sauce and chestnut mousse with praline, chocolate and vanilla sauces can be yours for £250. Start the New Year with a clear conscience . . . .

FOOD NOTES

Balcraig House, New Scone, Perth, Perthshire (0738 51123).
The Black Swan, Ravenstonedale, Kirkby Stephen, Cumbria (05873 204).
The Salisbury, The Broadway, Old Hatfield, Hertfordshire (07072 62220).
Hyatt Carlton Tower, 2 Cadogan Place, London SW1 (01-235 5411).
Il Passetto, 230 Shaftesbury Avenue, London WC2 (01-836 9391).
Chez Solange, 35 Cranbourn Street, London WC2 (01-836 0542).
Bates, 11 Henrietta Street, London WC2 (01-240 7600).

CHESS

Eye on the python

After a month of suspense, Anatoly Karpov has announced his intention of contesting his revenge title match against Gary Kasparov. Within weeks of losing his title, Karpov led the Soviet team to a convincing victory at the world Team Championship in Lucerne.

In the absence of Kasparov, Karpov represented the USSR on top board. It was noticeable that he seemed particularly anxious to gain experience with Kasparov's openings, but from his former challenger's point of view. Hence Karpov tried Kasparov's favourite Nimzo-Indian with P-KN3 against Suba (Romania) and Portisch (Hungary), both drawn and a Kasparov line of the Queen's Gambit to beat Spassky (France).

This win was Karpov's only major scalp and his overall score of five points from seven games was, in fact, not particularly impressive. His further results were wins against the lowly rated players, and draws.

The following win is typical of Karpov's pythonesque style.
White: Qi. Black: Karpov.
First World Team Championship, Lucerne, November 1985.
Queen's Pawn Opening.

1 P-Q4	N-KB3	2 B-N5	P-KR3
3 P-QB3			

More aggressive is the immediate 3 P-K4, reserving QB3 for his Queen's Knight.

3 ...	P-QN3	4 P-K4	P-KR3
5 BxN	QxB	6 P-K5	

The plan introduced with this advance is premature and weakening. Correct is simply 6 N-B3.

7 Q-B3	N-B3	8 Q-K2	Q-N2
9 N-Q2	O-O-O	10 P-KB4	

The Chinese player begins to construct a wall, but its foundations are not secure.

10 ... P-KN4!

Correctly preparing to dismantle White's overextended central barricade.

11 PxP e.p. DxP

A more adventurous player might have recaptured here with the pawn.

12 Q-B2	B-K2	13 N-R3	Q-N2
14 B-K2	P-B3	15 PxP	BxP
16 B-B3	KR-B1	17 Q-K2	P-KR4
18 O-O-O	P-R5	19 K-N1	K-N1
20 KR-N1	B-K2	21 N-B2	B-Q3
22 N-N4	R-B5		

A subtle manoeuvre to encourage a weakening of White's King's side pawn structure.

23 P-KR3

Now White can never mobilize his majority of pawns on the right flank.

23 ...	RS-B1	24 K-R1	B-B5
25 N-B4	B-N6		

The placing of this Bishop on an advanced post ensures that White will not be able to play a Rook to K1.

26 N(B4)-K3	Q-N4	27 Q-Q5	P-Q4
28 N-QB2	P-R4	29 N(B2)-K3	P-K4

Karpov activates his own central pawn majority.

30 PxP	NxP	31 NxN	QxN
32 N-B2	P-B4	33 KR-B1	Q-B4
34 Q-Q2	B-B5	35 Q-KB2	Q-N4
36 N-K3	B-R3	37 P-B4	

A futile attempt to expose the Black King at the cost of a pawn.

37 ...	PxP	38 RxRch	RxR
39 Q-K2	Q-K4	40 R-Q1	RxRch
41 QxR	Q-Q5	42 Q-B2	B-K4
43 N-N1	P-N4	44 N-B3	Q-K5
45 N-Q1	Q-B5	46 P-R3	P-N5
47 PxP	BPxP	48 K-N1	B-B1
49 B-K4	B-Q5	50 P-QN3	P-B5
51 Q-Q3	Q-K4	52 K-R2	B-N3
53 B-B3	P-R5	54 Q-N6	Q-K3

White resigns.

It is a sign of Karpov's immense will-power after his energy-sapping loss to Kasparov, extending over a two-month period, that his other two wins in Lucerne came in 90 and 70 moves respectively.

Raymond Keene

BRIDGE

Dummies and a debt of Honor

It is curious how often games players intermarry. But perhaps it is natural to look for sympathetic understanding from someone with the same interests and problems. Certainly bridge players are no exception, and I have been married for 20 years to one of the finest players in the country.

Although my wife, Honor, has represented Great Britain on several occasions, and has won innumerable trophies both here and abroad, she has largely forsaken the tournament game. She remains a keen and skilful rubber bridge player.

As we drove home after an afternoon's bridge recently, I confessed that I had made a hideous defensive mistake. "Couldn't possibly be as bad as the one I made," Honor laughed. When we got home we had a small bet on who had committed the greater error.

This was Honor's folly:
Rubber bridge. Love all. Dealer South.

	♠ J9 ♡ K1094 ◇ K542 ♣ J92	
♠ AQ4 ♡ 872 ◇ 653 ♣ 10873	N W E S	♠ K8765 ♡ AJ83 ◇ 108 ♣ 85
	♠ 1032 ♡ Q5 ◇ AQJ7 ♣ AKQ4	

W	N	E	S
		Honor	Flint
–	–	–	1♠
No	1♡	No	2NT
No	3NT	No	No
No	–	–	–

Opening lead ◇5

You may not approve of the bidding, but it had the merit of being unrevealing. Declarer, a good player, played the ◇9 from dummy and won Honor's ◇10 with the ◇A. He continued with the ♡Q on which West played the ♡2 and dummy the ♡4.

Seeing all four hands, the right defence is obvious. But Honor, fearful that declarer holding the ◇AQ alone was trying to create an entry to enjoy dummy's ◇K, ducked. West's MUD lead of the 5 from 653 is consistent with that construction. At rubber bridge, especially against no trumps, leading second best from three small cards, can cause your partner some confusion.

"West's lead may have been confusing", Honor conceded, "but that play of the ◇9 looked a bit fishy. I shouldn't have fallen for the bait."

This was my idiocy.
Rubber bridge. North South game. East-West 60. Dealer West.

	♠ 93 ♡ Q93 ◇ J10972 ♣ K85	
♠ 865 ♡ A1065 ◇ Q43 ♣ 1096	N W E S	♠ A1042 ♡ J872 ◇ K ♣ AJ72
	♠ KQJ7 ♡ K4 ◇ A865 ♣ Q43	

W	N	E	S
		J Flint	
No	No	1♠	1NT
2♣	3◇	No	3NT
Double	No	No	No

Opening lead ♠8

Another auction containing several dubious bids.

This South was also an excellent card player. He covered the ♠8 with dummy's ♠9 and I pondered before playing to the first trick. To justify his bidding, declarer must have good diamonds and a double stopper in spades. It could be right to duck the spade and hope to learn more about the hand. But that might force partner to make the critical decision whether to attack clubs or hearts.

Realizing I would be faced with a hideous choice, I won with the ♠A. Declarer followed with the *Knave of spades*. I was painfully aware that this could be a false card, but because I found it so hard to decide between hearts and clubs I feebly continued with a spade.

It could have been right to switch to a club, but the winning play is the ♡J. You must first decide which is declarer's doubleton; then make certain that partner will not be misled. If you switch to the ♡2, West could well suppose that you had ♡KJxx and take his ♡A, which would be as fatal for the defence as my pathetic spade continuation.

Who won the bet? We both did. Honor sweetly agreed that my play was utterly imbecilic and gave me 50p. I took her out to dinner.

Jeremy Flint

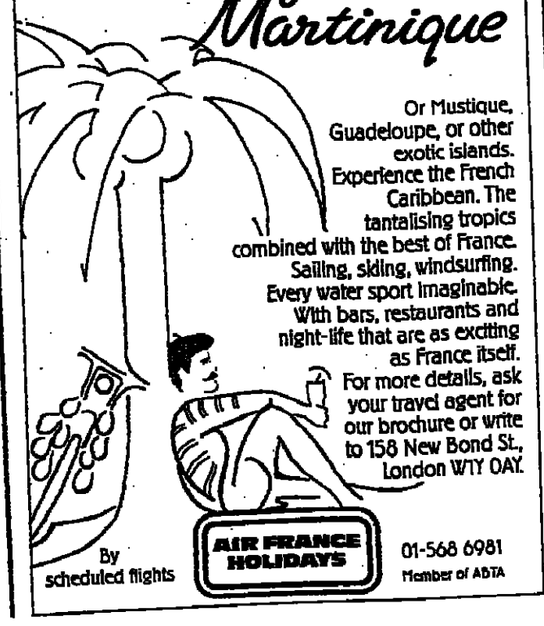
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BUTLER FOUND MURDERED.
A "Whodunnit" with a nice twist: the butler couldn't have.
It's only in the bumper Christmas issue of The Economist.
102 pages of editorial include special reports on racing, pantomime, snow (white stuff, comes from above) and privatisation worldwide.
Plus all the usual unusual views and comment.
The Economist, Christmas issue. Out now.
The Economist

SHOPPING

Beryl Downing reveals where you can buy all those essential last-minute presents and provisions

Late, but no need to panic

If you have left all the most difficult presents until last and are still in need of inspiration, try to avoid the other desperate gift hunters in the big stores and make instead for your nearest craft exhibition. Here is a selection of shows which still offer original ideas:

Oxford Gallery, 23 High Street, Oxford (0865 242731)
If Christmas is not complete without a carved bench in the shape of a crocodile with an articulated tail at £942, this is the place to go. It is by Tessa Howes. Smaller carved and coloured wooden items are by Ron Fuller whose work includes bath-sized toy submarines in



Interlocking otter medallion in limewood, 3½in, £45.50

blue, red and green at £4. Also in wood are laminated sycamore earrings in a mixture of bright colours by Michael Targett, £7.30-£11 and imaginative carvings by John Baldwin including 3D puzzles and interlocking medallions. Howard Rumbould specialises in mirrors in limewood and pine. Some are in rainbow stripes. One unusual design has carved blue wood ribbon zig zagging round the frame, 17in x 24in from £250. Open today and tomorrow 10am-5pm. Christmas Eve 10am-3pm.

Aspects, 3/5 Whitfield Street, London W1 (01-638 4141)
Some of the most unusual modern jewellery is in this Christmas treasure chest. Johanna Hess Dahm has invented a change-it-yourself brooch – a small magnetized rectangle with a selection of bright metal shapes which you can attach according to the design and colour combinations you wish. £13.95. Or choose paper earrings and brooches by Nicole Irving – little stars of paper overlapping into a fan shape from £10. Open today and Christmas Eve 10am-5pm. Tomorrow 10am-7pm.

Commonwealth Institute, Kensington High Street, London W8 (01-603 4535)
Tapestries from the Kingdom of Lesotho is an unusual exhibition of mohair tapestries made from goats reared on one of the smallest African kingdoms, between the Orange Free State and Natal. They range from about 12in x 15in at £15 to 6ft x 5ft, £500. Most depict village scenes, animals, birds and insects in earthy colours. Open today and Monday 10am-5.30pm. Sundays 2pm-5pm. Christmas Eve: closed.

Norwich Craft Shop, Rotunda, Castle Museum, Norwich (0603 611277)
This exhibition of ceramics by Michael Casson features a collection of wood-fired stoneware, porcelain and salt glaze vessels. Colours are natural beiges, pale blues and creams mingled with very dark browns, and prices are from £26. Open today and Monday 10am-5pm. Sunday 2pm-5pm. Christmas Eve: closed.

Milkhouse Gallery, 4 Milkhouse Gate, High Street, Guildford (0483 506380)
Since the gallery opened only five weeks ago it is stuffed with things for Christmas. Rainbow-coloured hand-blown Cowdy glass paperweights and others that look like granite balls are £7. Rosemary Wren's small animal ceramics include hand-coiled birds £23, baby barn owls 6in high, £48 and a life-size cat



£186. Raku bowls by John Dunn are in soft iridescent pinks, greens and blues £58 to £80. Open 10am-5pm today, Monday and Christmas Eve.

Beaux Arts, York Street, Bath, Avon (0225 64850)
The Christmas exhibition is of decorative ceramics, watercolours and oils by Dora Holzhandler, all with a middle-European flavour. Bright yellow, blue and pink glazed vases decorated with charming figures are from £60. The watercolours are painted on a wet background so that all the colours merge and they feature park scenes 4in x 6in to 18in square, £90-£300. Contemporary oils, often local scenes, are £450 up to £700. Open 10am-5pm today, Monday and Christmas Eve.

The Gallery, Finkle Street, Knaresborough, North Yorks (0423 866219)
Gold, Frankincense & Myrrh is a collection of gifts from 13 different parts of the world, including central Africa, India and Tibet. There is a wide price range from delicate silver bangles with a locking mechanism shaped as a snake, £5, and silver drop-earrings inset with opals from Bali, £7, to an early 18th century Turkoman leather belt embroidered with silver and gold, once belonging to a tribal leader, at £1,800. Other spectacular gifts include elaborate cape clasps in chased silver embellished with gold and set with cornelians and hanging bells from £150-£800. Open today until Christmas Eve including Sunday 10.30am-5pm.

CHRISTMAS CRISIS LINE

To avoid other domestic crises there are several shops and services which will still come to your aid.

● *No space in the freezer to make ice cubes? Quality Ice International will supply ice cubes, crushed ice or ice blocks even on Christmas Day. A 25lb bag costs £3, 50lb £5. Out of office hours, the minimum order is 50lb with a £5 surcharge, extra for Christmas and bank holidays. These are Central London charges. Telephone 01-582 9944.*

● *Those whose families are likely to turn up with half a dozen unexpected guests can still ensure enough food to go round by ordering one of Tessa Corr's Christmas Freezer Packs, £165. Among the delicious home-made treats are wild mushroom and onion soup, boned stuffed turkey with cashew nuts and raisins, fruit sorbet and fruit cake. Delivery in London free, elsewhere by Red Star. You can order today or tomorrow on 01-274 6196.*

● *A special Christmas Day delivery by Father Christmas can be arranged in Greater London and in some parts of the home counties. For £9.99, he will arrive between 8am and noon on Christmas morning, bearing a Christmas stocking. To book a Santa (credit cards only at this late stage) telephone 01-379 0930.*

● *Or, if you are in Central London and find you have forgotten a present on the day itself, Seefelds at 254 Earl's Court Road, London SW5 are open on Christmas Day from 10-5 pm. They have sports equipment, hi-fi, cosmetics, batteries and a few toys.*

Late larder fillers



Food, glorious food, is the pivot of the season. Apart from the home-made offerings, there is always a demand for instant taste temptations, from gourmet hampers to gourmand sweetmeats. Here is a selection of the latest ideas: The hamper business is becoming more specialized. The Sloane Minor's hamper, £45, includes a midnight feast of individual chocolate cake, a stink bomb and mince pies. And for the unfortunate grockles who cannot inhabit SW1, Kevin's Seducer's Picnic includes, apart from the obligatory smoked oysters and peanuts, Brut aftershave, a chest wig and a plastic comb – all in a cardboard box for a jokey £25. Both from Mostly Smoked, 47 Elizabeth Street, London SW1 W9PP (01-730 8367).

Also a conversation-starter, or stopper depending on your point of view, is the Fertility basket containing champagne, caviar, Turkish delight, body oil and a corn dolly for £23 from Baskets, P.O. Box 4RU, London W1A 4RU (01-629 0393). Postage and packing charged according to destination.

Many of the larger stores have unusual delicacies this year. Marks and Spencer's new specialities include whole cooked lobster, £8.99 per lb, and fresh Barbary ducks, £1.75 per lb. A new range of party food is now in all branches – I tried the chicken drumsticks with smokey bacon stuffing, £2.25 per lb, and cheese beignets, £1.19 for 12, and would be prepared to serve them and swear I had made them myself. Their Christmas pudding with cider and rum, £3.50, is still one of the best and they also have a frozen Grand Marnier yule log, £3.99, and whole yellow peaches in a glass, £1.39 for 700g.

Sainsbury's 2lb 4oz Christmas pudding is "bombe" shaped this year and stuffed with cherries, walnuts, brandy and sherry, £3.65. Their cakes include a pyramid German *stollen*, made with sultanas, almonds, marzipan, crystallized fruit and sprinkled with icing sugar, £2.15. A biscuit assortment comes in a smart black, gold and red art deco tin, and a 14oz Stilton cheese is in an attractive Denby jar, £4.15.

Sweets are necessary evils at family gatherings, and Thornton's are perennial favourites. Their round four-inch high Continental Casket is a grand affair of chocolate base and nougat walls, bulging with Continental chocolate for £5.99. The same assortment comes in a suede-finished box from £2.39 for a ½lb to £15.99 for a 3lb box. For children there is a six-inch white chocolate snowman with a red scarf, £2.49. Crabtree and Evelyn offer nursery delights – 12 Peter Rabbit Carrot biscuits, £1.45 in a Beatrix Potter box.

Charbonnel et Walker offer the personal touch by making up individual messages with gold and silver foiled chocolate letters inside a box of your choice, or you could have a ½lb theatre box in a faded tapestry design, tied with a silken cord, for £3.30. From Charbonnel et Walker, 1 The Royal Arcade, 28 Old Bond Street, London W1.

Stocking it to them at the right price

Christmas stockings are exciting for all ages: tantalizing lumps may be marbles or rubies depending on the extent of Santa's goodwill. This year we've found a fun selection for a variety of tastes for under £5.

To confuse your offspring thoroughly there's a curious sheep-shaped object that calls itself Tweet-Tweetie and goes Baa-aa when you turn it upside down. Still, it might keep an early bird four-year-old from bothering you too soon on Christmas morning. It costs £4.95 from Frog Hollow, 15 Victoria Grove, London W8, who also stock jig notes – plain paper jigsaws on which to write messages. Break it up, send it off and see whether the recipient is patient enough to put it together again: £1.99.

For back-to-nature enthusiasts, Elderflower eye gel £1.50, Tea Rose Talc £1.85, and Japanese Washing Grains 99p are part of a range of body and face products made from natural ingredients. Or have a gift basket made up with the contents of your choice. Wicker baskets are from 30p to £3.00 and there is a 10 per cent service charge for lining with straw or tissue paper. All at Body Shop branches.

If your worries are now soothed away, two decorative owl and pussy-cat soaps from Bronnley, individually boxed at £1.05 each, will soft-soap you even more. There is a copy of the Lear poem enclosed for you to "dance in the light of the moon", at Boots branches and major chemists.

For those who indulge in afternoon tea and caviar sandwiches, a Russian-style silver-plated tea glass on an engraved saucer is £4.95 at Shaws Gallery, 2 George Street, Marylebone High Street, London W1.

Young trend-setters will like the knitted, bow-trimmed headbands in red/black, turquoise/black or royal and black, 100 per cent acrylic, £1.99 from British Home Stores. For those who still think they are trend-setters, include a box of six Playboy mint crisps wrapped in black and white with the famous "bunny" logo, 65p by Kinnerton at branches of Boots.

Stocking filler toys with plenty of play value can be found at Heals, 199 Tottenham Court Road, London W1. A mini croquet set for £2.95 is ideal for setting up on a carpet as the 2in hoops have little feet to make them stable. Marbles can be an obsession – a printed bag full of red, green and blue ones costs 75p and for dolls' house collectors the latest miniatures are tiny boxes with 24 miniature tins of food 95p.

Bright colours always attract very young children and a musical metal drum decorated with a lively circus scene should do the trick. Turn the handle and a simple three-note tune is played, £1.45, from Tridias, 124 Walcot Street, Bath and branches in Richmond and Dartington. They also have fabric Pooh and Piglet kits to sew and stuff at £1.95.

Another engrossing present is Jill Murphy's *Baby Bear's Cut-Out Book* (Macmillan £2.25). A rather quizzical Baby Bear is cut out from the back of the book



Appliquéd stocking £8.95, Liberty

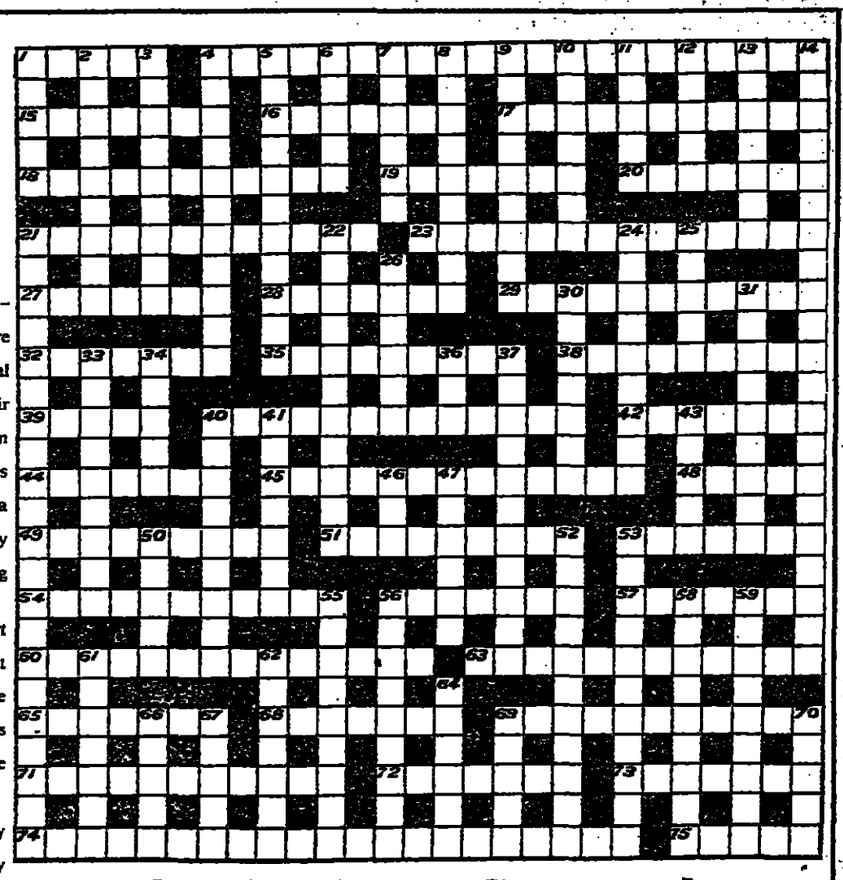
and inside are a variety of tabbed paper outfits ranging from a cosy winter coat and bobble hat to a complete school uniform with a banana for his pocket. At Hatchards.

Finally, two soldier-shaped candles in smart red and white might make bed-time a little more enticing for over-tired small revellers. The officer, 16cm, is £4.50 and the drummer boy, 12 cm, is £3.75. They could be accompanied by a glass nightlight candle holder shaped as a palace with arched windows, to round off the festive day with a satisfying glow, £4.95. All at Harrods.

Caroline Fisher

The Times Jumbo Crossword

Prizes of £50 will be given for the first five correct solutions opened on Tuesday January 7, 1986. Entries should be addressed to The Times Jumbo Crossword Competition, 12 Coley Street, London, WC99 9YT. The winners and solution will be announced on Saturday, January 11, 1986.



ACROSS
1 "How now! a rat? Dead, for a —, dead!" (*Hamlet*) (5).
4 "Quite elementary!" displayed initially as coda to the proof (4,4,13).
15 Compunction about to be shown by the carpenter's companion (7).
16 Bland, if a little swinish, Potter's character (7).
17 It can give ruffian lots of trouble, revealing fingerprints (11).
18 This has many links with the function of a bodyguard (5-6).
19 Chip shows Lawrence, using alias, joining Indian Civil Service on return (7).
20 Valerian placed by the side of a house (7).
21 A b— sounding retirement role for a great detective (12).
23 Purveyors of meat, bread and candlesticks (5,3,2,1,3).
27 Uneducated but not ill, we have to repeat (7).
28 Range so damaged by wild asses (7).
29 Producing such letters is a depressing job (11).
32 Hugh, say – or Will (7).
35 Is it so surprising to begin with fish? (9).
38 Like the soul of Hamlet, or 52 (9).
39 Pondered throwing us in the sea (5).
40 Like the year 999 putting maybe all men in peril (13).
42 Levantine decapitates prime minister (7).
44 Issue from the man at Edinburgh (7).
45 Is no room arranged to receive article which one dashed away to press with? (9-4).
48 What the card-sharper used to take it? (5).
49 Boy holds new design for apron to be unparalleled (9).
51 British isle that possibly precedes an American one (9).
53 Perception said to hearten the thirsty traveller (7).
54 The cooking of Rome is grand for a glutton (11).
56 Makes advance settlement for homework – revising, say (7).
57 Subject taken by a student relating to current affairs (7).
60 Science energetic in means of preserving heat (14).
63 Big banger appears grand in unusual modern hobby (8,4).
65 Back-sliding archbishop is married to eg Manichaeism (7).
68 Scrub this, it's a complete failure (4-3).
69 Wherewith an author may get rid of some of his characters (5-6).
71 I coped with sepia representation by an image projector (11).
72 Free to replace fifty in 66 with this metal (7).
73 One has to succeed to do so (7).
74 Most famous of Babylonian graffiti (4,4,5,8).
75 One up with a mathematical problem (5).

DOWN
1 Ancient Greek dialect or one in current form (5).
2 Hairdresser – Argentine lady turns up full of fight (9).
3 Natural development in support of army – it goes on eight legs (9).
4 Clue for setter in financial difficulties here (5,6).
5 So abusive an epithet for professional vivacity in work (11).
6 The Spanish students' frolic upset Sir Edward (5).
7 Danes' leader thus surrounded by a thin fog (6).
8 Aerial warfare, after Caesar's spirit cries havoc? (9).
9 Mother disguised as a ghost seen on a sailing-ship (9).
10 Among mineworkers sort out the remedy (7).
11 Swells loudly in an unusually soft setting (5).
12 Distribute a return of road-tax (5).
13 So lessen or damage trade with short weight of stones (7).
14 At Lord's they outnumber the Light Brigade two to one (10,7,4).
21 The end of this late vision heralded by the iron tongue of midnight (1,9,6,5).
22 A frolic with arms perhaps, like Jacob's dreamy way to heaven (11).
24 Isaac's follower gives fresh weight to one article (9).
25 A horse's refusal, we hear? (5).
26 Pulse fast, the Italian concludes (6).
30 Old East End borough contains university of the people (7).
31 Summing up without hesitation – it's likely to fall (9).
33 He doesn't drink or eat in bars anyway (9).
34 Languish, troubled daily by rival suitors (5).
36 Bar establishment (3).
37 Like those walking out – state of ground firm (5,6).
40 Bogus favourite about right to have *finished* last (9).
41 Puts fodder in storage, changing lines in two directions (7).
43 Estimates for council's income (5).
46 100 mph – that's the style (3).
47 Is the second child a girl? (6).
50 It wakes one up in jolly fashion (5).
52 A smart and sound sort of French astrologer (11).
53 Unifying process in allotment containing sheep (11).
55 Remains of a parliament post, say, as an item on the menu (4,5).
56 Illustrated record turns up about beheaded queen (9).
58 Mrs Swan, an aggressive type of clerical worker (3-6).
59 With vulgar clothes Edward gets beaten up (9).
61 No single story sent up causes such high spirits (7).
62 Fresh filling for pipes in the Isle of Wight (7).
64 "Like a rich jewel in an —'s ear" (*R & J*) (6).
66 The city of Paris with its topless towers (5).
67 This author a man of craft? (5).
69 Island giving us an alibi – Zanzibar? Not entirely (5).
70 Part of chopper going up and down (5).

Name.....
Address.....
.....

Concise Jumbo Crossword

Solution to appear on Monday December 23, no prize

ACROSS
1 Seize (5)
4 Sophie Tucker's self-description (4,2,3,3,3,6)
15 Cattle disease (7)
16 Found not guilty (7)
17 Rugby pack set piece (6,5)
18 Film parts (11)
19 Laying out (7)
20 Drinkable (7)
21 As well (12)
23 Unusual quantity (8,6)
27 Crawling creatures (7)
28 Died with will (7)
29 Attack on authority (4,7)
32 Cuddle (7)
35 In entranced state (9)
38 Chief steward (5,4)
39 Bishop's hat (5)
40 Stubbornness (13)
42 Stupid (7)
44 Intriguing puzzles (7)
45 Subject to court ruling (5,8)
48 Stable compartment (5)
49 Horrible dream (9)
51 Effective (9)
53 Bullfighter (7)
54 Maidliness (11)
56 Hurrying (7)
57 Nicked (7)
60 Appreciative gift (6,8)
63 Not beneficial (12)
65 Shows way (7)
68 Practical view (7)
69 Syrup pie (7,4)
71 Overpriced (11)
72 Inactivity (7)
73 Harried (7)
74 Expedient wedlock (8,2,11)
75 Risky (5)

DOWN
1 Subsidy (5)
2 New Zealand's S Pacific isles (9)
3 Living off another (9)
4 Grandly (11)
5 Grossly fawning (11)
6 Six-ball periods (5)
7 Jane's mate (6)
8 Lasting (9)
9 Void dish (5,4)
10 Gangster (7)
11 Dolt (5)
12 Disease start (5)
13 Carrion stork (7)
14 Ancient Mariner poet (6,6,9)
21 Shakespeare's Theseus and Hippolyta comedy (1,9,6,5)
22 Let advantage slip (4,3,4)
24 Green citrus drink (4,5)
25 Junior field rank (5)
26 Necessary (6)
30 Japanese stringed instrument (7)
31 Speed note code (9)
33 Pontoon canoe (9)
34 Very best (5)
36 Doze (3)
37 Bring about unity (6,5)
40 Ice cream nut (9)
41 Holed Swiss cheese (7)
43 Let into (5)
46 Atlas Berber (3)
47 Enclose (6)
50 Broad (5)
52 Sleight of hand (11)
53 Bountifulness (11)
55 Mockingly ironic (9)
56 Performance (9)
58 Ownership certificate (5,4)
59 Thick-shod boots (9)
61 Fish tank pump (7)
62 Hotchpotch (7)
64 Obstruct (6)
66 American raccoon (5)
67 Jargon (5)
69 Whole orchestra music (5)
70 In this age (5)

SOLUTION TO No 826 (last Saturday's prize concise)
ACROSS: 1 Blood vessel 9 Drifter 10 Vodka 11 Bee 13 Nags 16 Trot 17 Oblige 18 Ides 20 Fete 21 Mealie 22 Idol- 23 Warm 25 Yen 28 Unite 29 Echelon 30 Father Brown
DOWN: 2 Lying 3 Oath 4 Verb 5 Save 6 End [illegible] 7 Ad infinitum 8 East Germany 12 Edgily 14 SOS 15 Allege 19 Exotica 20 Few 24 Allow 25 Yeah 26 Near 27 Char

The winners of prize concise No 826 are: Mr L. T. Allen, Pine Grove, Windlesham, Surrey and Miss M. B. Morley, Lingmell Close, Bolton.

SOLUTION TO No 831
ACROSS: 1 Stubbs 5 Onrush 8 Kip 9 Valise 10 Emblem 11 Maxi 12 Clavicle 14 Belfry 17 Height 19 Manifold 22 Tuck 24 Lament 25 Arrest 26 Run 27 Nestle 28 Tamper
DOWN: 2 Tiara 3 Bailiff 4 Sketchy 5 Opera 6 Rabbi 7 Stealth 13 Vie 15 Emanate 16 Ref 17 Hydrant 18 Interim 20 Inert 21 Outre 23 Caste

IN THE GARDEN

Dead simple tasks

One of the most important tasks at this time of year is to remove those dead leaves which have become lodged between spring bedding plants such as wallflowers, polyanthus and bellis. This lets air circulate freely round the plants. Clear any leaves from lawn areas as well. When leaves cover the grass they can turn it almost yellow and they also attract worms.

Check all tree stakes and ties. The strong winds and buffeting storms of winter can seriously damage plants. Make sure that ties are not too tight round tree trunks – any weakness will be found when the winds begin to blow.

This is also a good time to do some dead wooding of trees. Do not climb any trees unless you are experienced. Most dead branches can be pulled down by a rope. Fix a weight to one end of the rope and throw this over the branch; when you have the two ends together, pull the branch down.

Apple and pear trees can be pruned so long as the temperature is above freezing. Last summer was good for growth and so there should be quite a lot to remove. Soft wood is prone to disease so cut it off as quickly as you can and burn all the prunings.

Check your garden machinery and store it somewhere dry. Give the machines a good clean and paint all the metal surfaces with oil to keep them free from rust; where appropriate, check engine oil levels and drain if necessary. This is also the time to send blades away to be sharpened.

Lawn drainage can become a problem now. Make a note of where the water lies for long periods and mark the ground. Often all that is needed is to spike the lawn or the garden.

Hot favourite

African violets are probably the most popular of all house plants at this time of the year. There are few periods when they are not in flower but around Christmas they are at their best. They need very little room in which to grow and they are not fussy about conditions so long as you obey a few rules.

They will not tolerate frost or cold temperatures, so put them in a moderately heated room with good light but not direct sunlight.

Window-sills protected from direct sun are ideal. Temperatures of about 70°F are ideal. Night temperatures can be allowed to drop to about 10°F. Above all keep them out of draughts. Plants grown on a windowsill must be brought inside the room in the evening.

African violets like moist, but not wet soil. Try to ensure when watering not to wet the foliage, which can disfigure the leaves. Plunge the pot in water and then drain. Plants should remain in their pots until root bound; you can then see if they will divide or if there are young plants coming along.

Ashley Stephenson

COUNTRY CASUALS
SALE
STARTS
MONDAY DECEMBER 23rd
MANY BARGAINS AT HALF PRICE
At your local Country Casuals Shop
See local Newspapers for Shop-in-Shop Sale Dates

هكذا من الأصل

DRINK

Toast to the champions of fortified wine

It's time to bring out those aperitif and post-prandial bottles. Jane MacQuitty gives a good-taste guide on what to buy

Between now and Christmas the somewhat stagnant fortified wine *trade will enjoy a festive flurry as merry-makers rush to buy a* bottle or two of sherry, port or madeira as a sideboard standby. Sadly these comforting cups of Christmas cheer are mostly considered unfashionable tipples by today's wine-drinkers. Yet heart-warming, high-alcohol, fortified wines are, perhaps, some of the most satisfying that the wine trade produce.

Joining me (JMQ) in this punishing day-long, blind, fortified wine-tasting were Masters of Wine Maureen Ashley (MA) from the Wine Standards Board and Clive Coates (CC) author of *The Vine*, together with John Higgins (JH) and Robin Young (RY) from *The Times*.

FINO SHERRY

Bone dry, pungent fino sherries make some of the best of all the Christmas standbys. A glass after church on Christmas Day makes a delicious aperitif before the turkey and I like to serve a good chilled fino as a festive first course wine with game consommé.

Keep your bottle in the refrigerator for perfect freshness during the Christmas week and for the freshest finos of all try decanting a bottle in to two firmly stoppered half bottles, using one before the other.



BEST

Sainsbury's Pale Dry Manzanilla, Bodegas del Ducado de Sanlucar de Barrameda (Sainsbury, £2.55)
Five full points ahead of the competition, everyone adored this "superb light, delicate, yeasty *manzanilla" (JMQ) that had, as MA* put it, a "massive flowery flor" (nose) plus a "super-fresh, *flowery" taste.*

Barbadillo Manzanilla Olorosa, Antonio Barbadillo (Waitrose, £2.99; Oddbins, £2.99)
Another "wonderful, light, elegant salty manzanilla" (JMQ) that was, as RY spotted, "more mellow, gentle and nutty" than most.

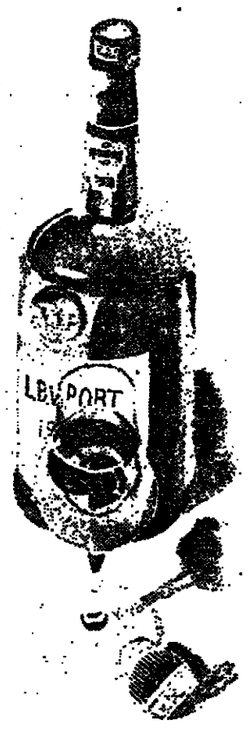
Fino Sherry, F. Garcia de Velasco (Waitrose, £2.75)
JMQ loved this fino's "delicious, strong, intense yeasty Jerezano flavour" as did CC: "good, nutty, fruity".

San Patricio Fino, Garvey (The Wine Society, Gunnels Wood Road, Stevenage, Herts, £3.85; Oddbins, £3.69)
"Good, clean, yeasty nose and palate" wrote JMQ and "austere, balanced, very dry fino" (JH).

GOOD

Tesco's Finest Solera Sherry (Tesco, £2.65)
This "sweeter, broader, more *commercial fino" (JMQ) went down* especially well with CC who enjoyed its "soft, fragrant, racy" style.

Dominicus Fine Dry Fino (Peter Dominic, £2.69)
"Fresh, flowery-fruity, yet commercial fino" for JMQ and "good value cheaper fino" for JH.



Justerini & Brooks Pall Mall Manzanilla Sherry (Peter Dominic, £3.99)
"Good, light manzanilla flor" noted JMQ, as did RY: "pungent flor flavour".

Tio Pepe, Gonzalez Byass (Sainsbury, £3.95, Victoria Wine *and Oddbins, £3.99)*
"Clean, strong Jerezano taste" noted JMQ and "good, light, dry *flor character" (MA).*

BORDERLINE

Inocente Machamudo Fino Sherry (The Wine Society, £4.20)
La Ina, Domecq (Victoria Wine, £4.19)
Don Zollo Very Old Dry Fino, Diez-Merito (Selfridges, £5.50)
Harveys Luncheon Dry Very Pale Fino (Sainsbury, £3.49)
St Michael Pale Dry Sherry, Fernando A. de Terry (Marks & Spencer, £3.15)

BAD

Croft Delicado (Peter Dominic, £3.99)
Harveys Manzanilla Extra Dry Sherry (John Harvey & Sons, £3.94)
Olé Dry Manzanilla Seco (Victoria Wine, £2.69)
Don Fino Superior Dry Sherry, Sandeman (Oddbins, £3.69)

PORT

Christmas just wouldn't be Christmas without a rich, fruity glass or two of port to go with the Stilton and nuts. Late bottled vintage ports make especially useful festive tippling.

BEST

Graham's Late Bottled 1979 Vintage (Oddbins, £5.79; Gough Bros, £5.99)
This "rich, sweet, plummy, raisiny, tea-leaf nosed port" (JMQ) makes an excellent all-round Christmas drink and scored high marks with everyone especially CC, who noted its "good rich ripe fruit".

Finest Vintage Character Churchill's Port, Churchill Graham (Russell & Mciver, £5.75; Hay & Wheeler, 6 Culver Street West, Colchester, £5.69)
Much admired by JMQ and RY, this "delicious big, full, fruity, peppery port with grip and length" and "fat, velvety, full-bodied style" would be superb with Stilton.

Sandeman Late Bottled 1979 Vintage (Arthur Rackham, £6.26)
Tawny-garnet in colour, this "elegant yet beefy, tea-leaf port" was thought by MA to be a "mature, soft, attractive after-dinner wine".

Dow's Late Bottled 1979 Vintage (ASDA, £4.79; Oddbins, £5.99)
This "soft, light, flowery-fruity port" *(JMQ) is another easy-to-drink* festive port that JH thought had "more character" than most.

GOOD

Ferreira LBV 1980 (Arthur Rackham and Threshers, £6.49)
"Mature colour plus a big, assertive, spicy Douro style" noted JMQ and JH a "post-pud pleasure".

Taylor's Late Bottled 1979 Vintage (Sainsbury's, £5.85; Majestic Wine Warehouses, £5.99)
"Mature, raisiny, ageing marzipan fruit" commented JMQ and MA agreed: "good, gentle, well-aged port".

Sainsbury's Fine Old Vintage Character Port, W & J Graham (Sainsbury, £4.25)
CC thought this port had "good, commercial concentrated fruit" but *JMQ wasn't so keen: "too soft and* old".

Croft Late Bottled 1978 Vintage (Peter Dominic, £6.15)
This "rich young fruity wine" (JMQ) was voted a "good young gutsy port" by MA.

BORDERLINE

Noval LB Port, Quinta do Noval (Peter Dominic, £5.99)
Delaforce Vintage Character (Peter Dominic, £5.75)



Illustrations by Glynn Boyd Harris.

MALMSEY

A fortifying glass of a luscious, raisiny, malmsey madeira makes a splendid marriage with the lunchtime Christmas pudding or even at tea with mince pies and Christmas cake.

BEST

Cossarts' Finest Over Five Years *Old Reserve Malmsey, Cossart &* Gordon (Majestic Wine Warehouse, £5.99; British Home Stores, £6.25)
Everyone admired this "delicious, rich, nutty, beefy malmsey" (JMQ) *and quite rightly too considering its* extra age for, as MA noted, its "super-rich, toffee, after-meal style" was "spot on".

Shortridge Reserve Malmsey, V. *Shortridge Lawton (Prospero* Wines, 2 Warrington Crescent, London W9, £4.50)
This "rich, fruity, flavoury malmsey" (JMQ) made a worthy runner-up and had, as RY noted, an expecially "rich powerful nose".

Good Company Malmsey, Cossart *& Gordon (Buckinghams, £5.25;* Haynes, Hanson & Clark, 17 Lettice Street, London SW6, £5.38)
"Good not great" was JMQ's verdict but everyone else enjoyed *this one including JH, who found it* a "good fireside drink".

GOOD

Blandy's Duke of Clarence *Malmsey (Peter Dominic, £5.29)*
This "strong, nutty, amber-yellow malmsey" (JMQ) was rated a "rich, heavy, soft, send-you-to-sleep-wine" by MA.

Harvey's *Superior Old Malmsey*, Henriques & Henriques (John Harvey & Sons, £4.76; Waitrose, *£4.55)*
"A big rich, beefy madeira" noted JMQ as did RY: "rich, acceptable wine".

Sainsbury's Malmsey Madeira, *Barbeito (Sainsbury, £3.95)*
Much improved over the years this "well-made, soft, walnutty commercial malmsey" (JMQ) was admired by RY for its "truffly, raisiny character".

BORDERLINE

Tarquinio Dessert Malmsey, T. da C. Lomelino (Russell & Mciver, The Rectory, St Mary at Hill, London EC3, £5.18)
Crown Malmsey Madeira, Vinhos Barbeito (Catisfield Wine Stores, Fareham, Hants, £6.02)

***Rutherford & Miles Fine Old* Malmsey (Tanners of Shrewsbury, £5.95).**

Paperbacks

REVIEW

Unpredictable collection of jewels in the bush

The Oxford Anthology of Australian Literature edited by Leonie Kramer and Adrian Mitchell (£15)

An anthology, said Sir Walter Raleigh, is like all the plums and orange peel picked out of a cake. To which I'd add the more plums and the less orange peel the better: plums being fruits easily devoured and orange peel being stuff to dribble.

This anthology is heavy on orange peel. I suspect this came about because the editors, both teachers of Australian literature at Sydney University, were so determined to avoid the predictable that they have allowed themselves to go to the opposite extreme and become idiosyncratic in their choice.

There are only two truly predictable pieces in the entire 500 pages: A. B. Paterson's "The Man from Snowy River" and Dorothea Mackellar's "My Country". The two have caused hours of suffering to generation after generation of Australian schoolchildren, who have been forced to learn them by heart.

The two are, of course, in verse and my *main criticism* of this volume is that it contains far too much poetry. I do not see how the editors justify its inclusion.

In the final section alone, which is devoted to contemporary writing, 29 out of 36 entries are from poets. Perhaps they are so favoured because they wrote short pieces. The editors declare an aversion to length in the preface and state that they have tried to avoid extracting passages. They do not explain why they have chosen this course; the extracts that have slipped through the net work perfectly well.

I would love to have seen, for novelty as well as historical neatness, part of the first novel that was published in Australia, Henry Savery's *Quintus Servinton* (1840), and an extract from the first Australian book written by a woman, Catherine Helen Spence's *Clara Morison* (1854), as well as a glimpse of Rolf Boldrewood's *Robbery Under Arms*, the first novel in which an Australian-born character takes charge of the narrative.

Instead Australia's early years are represented by passages from the diaries, journals and letters of the first settlers. All good orange peel. The first plums are provided by William Boyd's unflattering analysis of the swagman: "too lazy to work, too mean to mix with other men" and by Francis Adams's *view of Melbourne in the 1880s*, when gold had made her rich, and before the Depression had made her cautious.

This first section, with writings dating from 1788 to 1918, has 35 entries. The second, the 1920s and 1930s, a mere 11, in which Rex Ingamells shines out like the Southern Cross. Ingamells, in an essay, despairs of the way in which Australian writers still refer to their European background rather than attempt to *express themselves in relation*ship to their environment. He hates the way dewdrops on a gum tree are described as "jewels". Jewels in the bush! Unfortunately, the editors offer no detail of Ingamells's attempt to put this right by forming the Jindyworobak Movement.

The scanty notes accompanying each entry are a definite *minus. So too are the lack of* specific dates for each piece. To say that an entry belongs somewhere in the *1940s-1960s* is not good enough. I want to know exactly when Robert Hughes, the art critic now living in New York, wrote his provocative essay on Australian intellectual life, arguing that in this Land of Cockayne, even Orwell would turn into a beach bum. That view is out of date and Kramer and Mitchell should *have included another* essay in the contemporary section to make the point, dropping one of their 29 poets on the way.

Linda Christmas



Young face of China

Race into the future

Youth in China by Beverley Hooper (Penguin, £3.95)

One in four of the young people in the world live in the People's Republic of China. The weight of their numbers is bound to affect the future for the rest of us, as they emerge from the closed society of Mao. This book, based on interviews with young Chinese, explores the way they are moving, and finds similarities with the way of the young in the rest of the world. Since Mao, personal advancement and the acquisition of things have become the new gods. Competition for a good education is even more of a rat race than in the west. If you fail to get it, you can find yourself "awaiting employment" for years. Young women in particular are losing the race.

Philip Howard

To Heller and back with God and war

There is a generation of young men now in their early twenties blessed with the name Yossarian, christened by their doting fathers under the all-pervading influence of Joseph Heller's *Catch 22* and its anti-war hero. What kind of name is that? – the exact question asked by his superior officer, for whom Yossarian was a serious problem and whose treatment could prove crucial for promotion.

If there is one thing that Heller knows, it is that life is harsh and life is cruel. Yossarian and his mates, flying almost suicide missions in the Second World War, realized it only too well. Yossarian constantly complained that people were trying to kill him, but the war just would not go away. When he and others achieved the number of flying missions to qualify to go home, the number of missions was increased.

The only way to be grounded was to go crazy, *but if you said* you wanted to be grounded you clearly were not crazy. That was the catch.

Heller's masterpiece remains, 25 years after its first publication, as awesomely impressive as ever, the imagination and invention overpowering.

Catch 22 by Joseph Heller (Black Swan, £4.95)
God Knows by Joseph Heller (Black Swan, £3.95)

This new edition comes with an introduction from Anthony Burgess who points out that, with the exception of Evelyn Waugh's brilliant but "limited" *Sword of Honour*, the really important fictional writings about the war have come not *from Britons but from Americans* – Herman Wouk's *The Caine Mutiny*, *The Naked and the Dead* by Norman Mailer and *Catch 22*.

Catch 22 is an unforgettable attack on war as an obscene event, tearing apart the minds and bodies of those on the same side, let alone the enemy. It is bitter and cynical and wonderfully funny. The characters are fantastical yet credible. There is Major Major, who leaves his office by the window when an interview threatens. There is Major —— de Coverley, so described because no one knows his first name. There is Milo Mindbender, for whom the war is big business. He ends up ordering the planes to bomb their own base for their mutual advantage.

King David, whose story is told in the Old Testament, also took the view that life was harsh and cruel. Looking back as an old man, he feels that God has let him down. He is waiting for an apology. Nor does he think the books in the Old Testament did him justice. Chronicles was a "prissy whitewash", making him out to be a pious bore, and "I honestly think I've got the best story in the Bible. Where's the competition? Job? Forget him. Genesis? The cosmology is for kids, an old wives' tale".

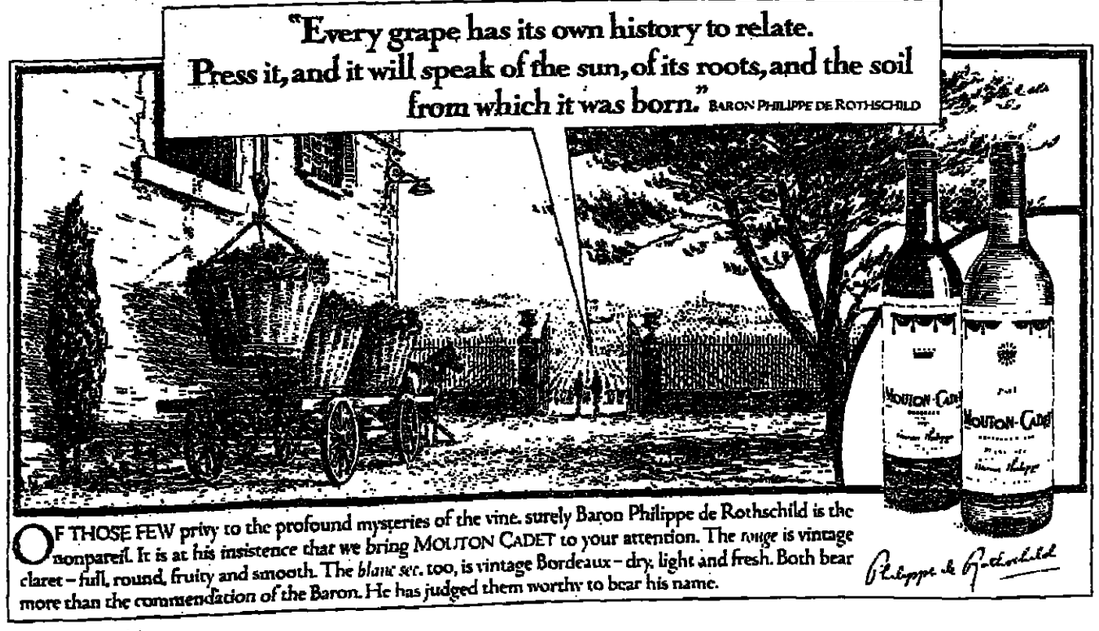
So he decides to tell his own story, and it is a racy, angry and emotional tale to rival any of the strong meat in the OT, with a good deal of rather rude language thrown in.

Of the promised land of milk and honey, David complains of the complicated set of restrictive dietary laws that accompanied it. "To the *goyim* He gives bacon, sweet pork, juicy sirloin, and rare prime ribs of beef. To us He gives a pastrami".

Life is harsh, to be sure. And cruel. "The longer I reflect on this tale of mine, the stronger *grows my conviction* that killing Goliath was just about the biggest goddam mistake I ever made. Saul drafted me into his army that same day and I have been living under sword almost all my life since". Hard words from a man of God, even *if he had fallen out with Him.*

God Knows is Heller's fourth novel. It seemed impossible that anything he wrote after *Catch 22* could match it, and it hasn't. But *God Knows* is another marvellous creation, and the first half of this chat about God and man, before the idea loses momentum, should not be missed. God knows it is good.

Christopher Warman



OF THOSE FEW privy to the profound mysteries of the vine, surely Baron Philippe de Rothschild is the nonpareil. It is at his insistence that we bring MOUTON CADET to your attention. The *rouge* is vintage claret – full, round, fruity and smooth. The *blanc sec*, too, is vintage Bordeaux – dry, light and fresh. Both bear more than the commendation of the Baron. He has judged them worthy to bear his name.

Philippe de Rothschild

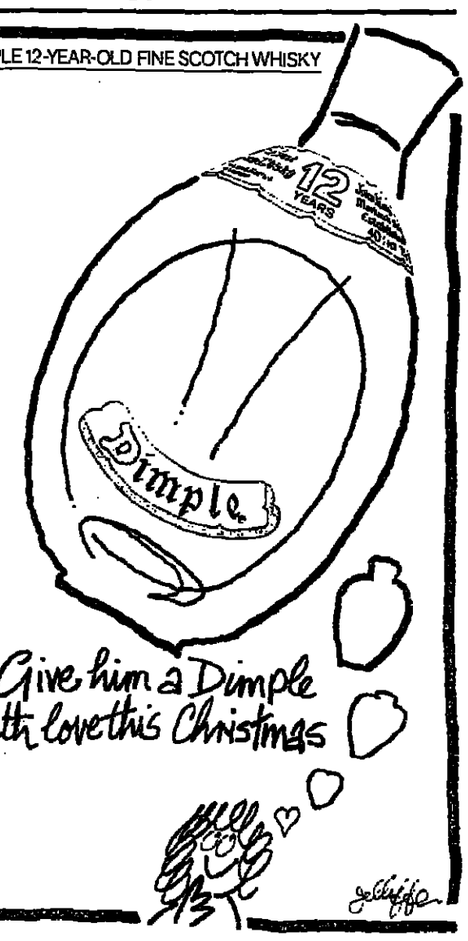
Ferreira: *(n)* A riveting [and often amusing] anecdote, usually recounted *after* a good meal.
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Sunday 29 Dec 3.00 & 7.30 pm — JOHANN STRAUSS GALA Johann Strauss Orchestra & Dancers. Jack Rothstein (dir/vln) *Dancers in period costume Ann James (sop)* Geraldine Stephenson (choreog) Music of the Strauss Family incl waltzes, polkas, marches and songs from Die Fledermaus, etc
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QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL

Saturday 21 Dec 7.45 pm — CAROLS FOR CHOIR AND AUDIENCE A Festival of Christmas Music for all the Family with City of London Choir. Donald Cashmore (conductor). *Rachel Masters (harp). Geoffrey Morgan (organ).*
£3, £4.50, £6 (only) City of London Choir

Sunday 22 Dec 3.00 pm — A CHRISTMAS CAROL (U) 100 mins. The definitive film version of the classic story by Charles Dickens starring George C. Scott as Scrooge, and Nigel Davenport, Frank Finlay, Lucy Gutteridge, Angela Pleasance, Roger Rees, David Warner, Edward Woodward, Susannah York.
All seats £2 (children/students/OAPs/UB40s £1)' GLC

Friday 27 Dec 7.45 pm — CAMERATA LYSY Sir Yehudi Menuhin (dir/vln) Yaltah Menuhin (pno) Alberto Lysy (vln) Hu Kin (vln) Mi-Kyung Lee (vln) Nury Guarnaschelly (horn) Mozart Horn Quintet K 407, Piano Conc K 414; Vivaldi Concertos for 2 vlns and 4 vlns, Bach/Baumgartner Conc for 3 vlns after *BWV 1064* £3.50, £5.50, £7, £8.50 *United Concerts Ltd*

Monday 30 Dec 3.15 pm — SPARTACUS (U) 87 mins. The film of the ballet with music by Khachaturian Vladimir Vasiliev, in the title role, Natalia Bessmertnova, Maris Liepa, Nina Timofeyeva and the Bolshoi Ballet.
All seats £3 Children/students/OAPs/UB40s £1.50 GLC

Monday 30 Dec 7.15 pm — CARMEN (PG) 152 mins. Francesco Rosi's film of Bizet's opera starring Julia Migenes Johnson (Carmen) Placido Domingo (Don José) Ruggero Raimondi (Escamillo) Faith Esham (Micaela) Lorin Maazel (cond) Orchestre National de France & Choir of Radio-France.
All seats £3 Children/students/OAPs/UB40s £1.50 GLC

Tuesday 31 Dec 3.15 pm — THE RED SHOES (U) 136 mins. Moira Shearer, Robert Helpmann, Leonide Massine, Anton Walbrook and Marius Goring in Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger's classic film "Still the most famous and popular ballet film ever made" - The Times.
All seats £3 Children/students/OAPs/UB40s £1.50 GLC

Tuesday 31 Dec 7.15 pm — PAVLOVA (U) 132 mins. Emil Lotianou's film biography of the great dancer starring Galina Beliaeva (Pavlova) James Fox (Victor d'Andre) Sergei Shakurov (Fokine). V. Larionov (Diaghilev) plus scenes from the Bolshoi and Kirov Theatres
All seats £3. Children/students/OAPs/UB40s £1.50 GLC

Wednesday 1 Jan 4.00 pm — WAGNER Richard Burton as Wagner in Tony Palmer's epic 5½ hour film (45 minute interval) Featuring Vanessa Redgrave, Gemma Craven, Laszlo Galffi, Elisabeth Schall, Sir John Gielgud, Sir Ralph Richardson, Sir Laurence Olivier, Music conducted by Sir Georg Solti.
All seats £5. Children/students/OAPs/UB40s £3 GLC

Thursday 2 Jan 7.45 pm — PETER FRANKL (piano) GYÖRGY PAUK (violin) RALPH KIRSHBAUM (cello) Beethoven Cycle: Trio in E flat, Op.1 No.1. Cello Sonata in G minor, Op.5 No.2. Violin Sonata in A, Op.47 (Kreutzer)
Other dates Jan. 5, 9, 12, 16, 19
£5, £3, £4, £5, £6 *Ingpen & Williams Ltd. and Harrison/Parrott Ltd.*

Friday 3 Jan 7.45 pm — THE MIDNITE FOLLIES ORCHESTRA with Johnny 'M' and Sweet Substitute. 'Drop me off at Harlem - a night at the Cotton' is the setting for the music of Duke Ellington, Fletcher Henderson, Cab Calloway & Jimmy Lunceford. Last performance in London
£3.50, £4.50, £5.50 GLC

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27 Dec — THE 10 DAY WONDER A GLC extravaganza for children of all ages *THE DAVID WOOD MAGIC AND MUSIC SHOW with Peter Ponzol on at the piano*

28 Dec — SHADOWSTRING PUPPETS present Puppet Circus, uproarious clowning

29 Dec — COMMON LORE Stories, riddles and rhymes from many lands

30 Dec — MEDICOLORE The music and dance of Mexico transform the Purcell Room

31 Dec — THEATRE OF THELEMA present The Money Tree (or A Fistful of Carrots)

1 Jan — OILY CART THEATRE COMPANY present Tibet Or Not Tibet. Dastardly deeds!

2 Jan — THEATRE OF THELEMA present The Money Tree (or For A Few Carrots More)

3 Jan. — OILY CART THEATRE COMPANY present Tibet Or Not Tibet. Abominable! Snowmen!

4 Jan — LEARS MAGICAL LANTERNS A family show by Victorian magic lantern

5 Jan at 2.30 pm — MICHAEL PALIN reads from his book of limericks
Tickets Children 50p, Adults £1 Free creche GLC

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Tomorrow Sunday Dec 22 1.00pm — BBC SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA. Gennadi Rozhdestvensky (conductor) Tchaikovsky: Music from 'Swan Lake'
ALL SEATS £2.50, children under 16, OAPs and unemployed £1

Tomorrow Sunday Dec 22 7.00pm — CITY OF LONDON SINFONIA. Richard Hickox Singers. Richard Hickox (conductor) Valerie Masterson (soprano) James Bowman (counter-tenor) Martyn Hill (tenor) Stephen Roberts (baritone). HANDEL MESSIAH.
£9.50, £7.50 £5 only *Sponsored by John Laing Construction Ltd*

Thursday Dec 26 7.45pm — ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA. Norman Del Mar (conductor) Sir Yehudi Menuhin (violin) Beethoven Evenings: Overture 'Egmont', Op 84 Violin Concerto in D, Op 61 Symphony No 5 in C minor, Op 67.
£12.50, £10.50, £8.50, £6.50, £5.
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Friday Dec 27 7.45pm — ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA. Barry Wordsworth (conductor) Barry Douglas (piano) Rossini: Overture 'William Tell' Grieg Peer Gynt Suite No 1 Tchaikovsky: Piano Concerto No 1 Dvorak: Symphony No 9 'From the New World'
£9.50, £8.50, £7.50, £6, £5. *Raymond Gubbay Ltd*

Saturday Dec 28 12.00 noon — Extra performance of THE SNOWMAN with Aled Jones (boy soprano).
Adults £6.50 Children under 16 £4.50 3pm performance SOLD OUT
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Sunday Dec 29 3.00pm — CAMERATA LYSY, GSTAAD: Sir Yehudi Menuhin (violin) Alberto Lysy (violin/dir) Hu Kun (violin) Mi-Kyung Lee (violin) Bach: Concerto for 2 Violins Vivaldi: The Four Seasons
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£9.50, £8.50, £7.50, £6, £5. *Raymond Gubbay Ltd.*

Monday Dec 30 3.00pm & 7.45pm — THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE. Two complete and costumed performances of Gilbert & Sullivan's comic opera presented by The Magic of D'Oyly Carte.
London Concert Orchestra. Fraser Goulding (conductor) Alan Spencer (director) *Soloists & Chorus.*
Matinee £9, £8, £7, £6, £5 Children under 16 and OAPs £5.
Evening £10.50, £9, £7.50, £6 *Raymond Gubbay Ltd.*

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£9, £8, £7, £5.50, £4, £3.

Thursday Jan 2 7.45pm — LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA. James Paul (conductor) Augustin Dumay (violin) Borodin: Polovtsian Dances from 'Prince Igor' Tchaikovsky: Violin Concerto in D Rimsky-Korsakov: Scheherazade
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Friday Jan 3 2.00pm & 5.00pm — NEW YEAR'S TEDDY BEARS' CONCERTS. London Concert Orchestra. Fraser Goulding: (conductor) Introduced by Ian Lavender. Prog inc the very first performance of Paddington in Concert.
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Suite from "Swan Lake", Suite from "Nutcracker"
Waltz from "Sleeping Beauty". Piano Concerto No. 1
OVERTURE 1812 with CANNON & MORTAR EFFECTS

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BLUE DANUBE DANCERS Conductor VILEM TAUSKY
JOHANN STRAUSS: Ov. Fledermaus, Christmas Polka, Hunting Polka, Voices of Spring, Perpetuum Mobile, Radetzky March. Champagne Polka, Egyptian March, Cuckoo Polka, Wine, Women & Song, Pizzicato Polka, Blue Danube Waltz, SUPPÉ: Ov. Poet & Peasant. LEHAR: Gold & Silver Waltz. SCHUBERT: Unfinished Symphony
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LONDON PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA
Soloist: CARLOS BONELL
MOZART Ov. Marriage of Figaro. HANDEL Water Music Suite
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in assoc. with the LSO
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LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
Conductor: CLIVE FAIRBAIRN Soloist: MANOUG PARIKIAN
MENDELSSOHN Ov. Fingal's Cave HANDEL Music for the Royal Fireworks
BRUCH Violin Concerto BEETHOVEN Symphony No. 6 (Pastoral)
£3.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50, £8.50 from Hall 928 3191 CC 928 8800

AT THE BARBICAN

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HANDEL – MOZART
LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
Conductor/piano: HOWARD SHELLEY Clarinet: JACK BRYMER
HANDEL: Arrival of the Queen of Sheba.
MOZART Piano Concerto No. 23 (Elvira Madigan), Clarinet Concerto, Symphony No. 41 (Jupiter)
£4.50, £7.50, £8.50, £9.50 from Hall 638 8891/ 628 8795

SUNDAY 12th JANUARY at 7.30
ELGAR – BEETHOVEN
LONDON PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA
Conductor: BRIAN WRIGHT Soloist: ROBERT COHEN
ELGAR. Introduction & Allegro for Strings, Cello Concerto.
BEETHOVEN: Symphony No. 7.
£4.50, £7.50, £8.50, £9.50 from: Hall 638 8891; 628 8795

WEDNESDAY 29th JANUARY at 7.45
BRAHMS – MAHLER
PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA
Conductor: JOHN CAREWE
Soloist: ELIZABETH TREANOR
BRAHMS Violin Concerto MAHLER Symphony No. 5
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For details see Barbican panel

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ROSSINI-GRIEG-TCHAIKOVSKY-DVORAK
Rossini ..... OVERTURE WILLIAM TELL
Grieg ..... PEER GYNT SUITE NO.1
Tchaikovsky ..... PIANO CONCERTO NO.1
Dvorak ..... SYMPHONY NO.9 'NEW WORLD'
ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA
Conductor: BARRY WORDSWORTH BARRY DOUGLAS piano
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THE SNOWMAN
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MENDELSSOHN-HANDEL-GRIEG-BEETHOVEN
Mendelssohn ..... OV. 'THE HEBRIDES' (FINGAL'S CAVE)
Handel ..... WATER MUSIC SUITE
Grieg ..... PIANO CONCERTO
Beethoven ..... SYMPHONY NO.3 'EROICA'
ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA
Conductor: NICHOLAS CLEOBURY HOWARD SHELLEY piano
For details see Barbican panel

MONDAY 30 DECEMBER at 3 & 7.45 pm
THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE
Two complete and costumed performances of Gilbert and Sullivan's comic opera presented by
The Magic of D'Oyly Carte
For details see Barbican panel

FRIDAY 3 JANUARY at 2 pm and 5 pm
NEW YEAR'S TEDDY BEARS CONCERT
The Teddys are back to guarantee a happy start to the New Year. Prog. inc. Teddy Bears Picnic, Marches from Coppelia, Cachoo Polka, Superwoman/Superman/Superdog, Can Can from Orpheus in the Underworld, Liberty Bell, The Music of Disney, and the very first performance of Paddington in Concert by Michael Hord and Herbert Chappell featuring the very well known of Paddington Bear
For details see Barbican panel

SUNDAY 5 JANUARY at 7.30 pm
ROSSINI-HANDEL-GRIEG-BEETHOVEN
Rossini ..... OVERTURE THE BARBER OF SEVILLE
Handel ..... WATER MUSIC SUITE
Grieg ..... PIANO CONCERTO
Beethoven ..... SYMPHONY NO.8 'PASTORAL'
ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA
Conductor: PAUL FREEMAN EINAR HENNING SMEYBE piano
£3.50, £7.50, £9.50, £3.50

FRIDAY 10 JANUARY at 7.45 pm
MENDELSSOHN-BEETHOVEN-TCHAIKOVSKY
Mendelssohn ..... OVERTURE THE HEBRIDES (FINGAL'S CAVE)
Beethoven ..... PIANO CONCERTO NO.5 (EMPEROR)
Tchaikovsky ..... SYMPHONY NO.6 (PATHETIQUE)
ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA
Conductor: DALIA ATLAS MICHAEL ROLL piano
£5.50, £7.50, £9.50, £9.50

TUESDAY 21 JANUARY at 7.45 pm
WINTER LOVE CLASSICS
Bizet ..... PRELUDE FROM CARMEN
Grieg ..... PEER GYNT SUITE NO.1
Chopin ..... PIANO CONCERTO NO.1
Tchaikovsky ..... SWAN LAKE SUITE
Waldteufel ..... SKATERS WALTZ
Ravel ..... BOLERO
LONDON CONCERT ORCHESTRA
Conductor: BRAMWELL TOVEY MICHAEL BINNS piano
And a Winner Rose for each lady member of the audience
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TOMORROW at 7.00 pm
Barbican Centre, London EC2
CITY OF LONDON SINFONIA
The Richard Hickox Singers
conducted by Richard Hickox
with Valerie Masterson, James Bowman, Martyn Hill, Stephen Roberts
HANDEL Messiah
Tickets £4.50 from Barbican 01-638 8891; 01-628 8795

ROYAL ALBERT HALL **FRIDAY NEXT 27 DECEMBER at 7.30 pm**
AN EVENING OF KHACHATURIAN
LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
Conductor LORIS TJEKNAVORIAN
Piano ALBERTO PORTUGHEIS
Masquerade Suite, Piano Concerto, Spartacus Suite, Gayaneh Excerpts
£3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £7.50, £9.50
Box Office 01-589 8212 C.C. 01-589 8465
Jointly sponsored by the Tolstoy Cultural Association
KANTOR CONCERT MANAGEMENT

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL

RAYMOND GUBBAY presents **SUNDAY 29 DECEMBER at 5 & 7.30 pm**
JOHANN STRAUSS GALA
JOHANN STRAUSS ORCHESTRA
Directed from the violin by JACK ROTHSTEIN
JOHANN STRAUSS DANCERS in the costumes of the period
ANN JAMES soprano GERALDINE STEPHENSON choreographer
See Festival Hall panel for further details
Box Office 01-928 3191 C.C. (01-928 8800)
Also at FAIRFIELD HALL, CROYDON
SATURDAY 4 JANUARY at 7.30
Box Office 01-688 9291 Credit Cards 01-680 5955

RAYMOND GUBBAY presents **SUNDAY 12 JANUARY at 7.30 pm**
POPULAR CLASSICS
Tchaikovsky ..... THE SLEEPING BEAUTY WALTZ
Bizet ..... CARMEN SUITE
Grieg ..... PIANO CONCERTO
Tchaikovsky ..... FANTASY OV., ROMEO AND JULIET
Ravel ..... BOLERO
LONDON CONCERT ORCHESTRA
Conductor: BRAMWELL TOVEY HOWARD SHELLEY piano
£3.50, £5, £6.50, £7.50, £8.50, £9.50 Hall 01-928 3191 C.C. 01-928 8800

RAYMOND GUBBAY presents **SATURDAY 18 JANUARY at 7.30 pm**
ROSSINI-MOZART-RACHMANINOV-BEETHOVEN
Rossini ..... BARBER OF SEVILLE OVERTURE
Mozart ..... EINE KLEINE NACHTMUSIK
Rachmaninov ..... RHAPSODY ON A THEME OF PAGANINI
Beethoven ..... SYMPHONY NO.5
PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA
Conductor: JAMES JUDD JOHN OGDON piano
£3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50, £8.50, £9.50 Hall 01-928 3191 C.C. 01-928 8800

RAYMOND GUBBAY presents **SATURDAY 25 JANUARY at 7.30 pm**
POPULAR CLASSICS
Rossini ..... OVERTURE, WILLIAM TELL
Grieg ..... PEER GYNT SUITE NO.1
Tchaikovsky ..... PIANO CONCERTO NO.1
Suppé ..... OVERTURE, LIGHT CAVALRY
Mascagni ..... INTERMEZZO FROM CAVALLERIA RUSTICANA
Elgar ..... POMP AND CIRCUMSTANCE MARCH NO.1
Tchaikovsky ..... CAPRICCIO ITALIEN
LONDON CONCERT ORCHESTRA
Conductor: CHRISTOPHER ADEY SALLY ANN BOTTOMLEY piano
£3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50, £8.50, £9.50 Hall 01-928 3191 C.C. 01-928 8800

QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL

United Concerts presents
FRIDAY NEXT 27 DECEMBER at 7.45 pm
CAMERATA LYSY
SIR YEHUDI MENUHIN violin
Works for piano, violins & horn by MOZART & VIVALDI
See QEH panel for further details

CC Most credit cards accepted for telephone bookings or at the box office.
When telephoning see prefix 01 only when outside London Metropolitan Area.

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM S 836 3161, CC 240 5258
ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA
Tonight 7.00 Don Giovanni.

DOMINION THEATRE Tottenham Court Road, W.1. 01-580 9662, cc01-580 9645 Welsh National Opera Amoco Festival of Opera. Tonight Cost has turned. Performance starts at 7.30pm. Check with the box office for singles and returns. Standing room also available.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE Covent Garden WC2. 01-240 1066/1911. Access, Visa, Diners Club. Standing tel no 01-836 6903. Mon-Sat 10am-8pm. 65 amphi seats avail from 10am on the day. THE ROYAL OPERA tonight 7.00 Le nozze di Figaro. THE ROYAL BALLET Mon. Fri 7.30 The Nutcracker Ballet Casting into 01-240 9815.

SADLER'S WELLS 278 8916
Last 2 Perfs Tom't & Tomor 7.30pm
LONDON CONTEMPORARY DANCE THEATRE
Student Matinee (Cohan). The Annunciation (North). Class (Cohan).

THEATRES

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Many without booking fees
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24 hr 7 Day CC 240 7200
LAURENCE OLIVIER AWARD WINNER
BEST MUSICAL OF THE YEAR
ME AND MY GIRL
THE LAMBETH WALK MUSICAL
ROBERT LINDSAY
BEST ACTOR IN A MUSICAL
FRANK THORNTON
EMMA THOMPSON
DIRECTED BY MIKE ocKENT
Nightly at 7.30, Mats Wed 2.30 & Sat 4.30 & 8.00
Bill Solhson played by Paul Gruner
Wed Mats only

ALBERY, 01-836 3878 CC 379 6566 CC 379 6433, 741 9999. Group Sales 930 6123. 836 3962. Eves Mon-Fri 7.15. Sats 4.0 & 7.45pm.
ANTONY SHER
ACTOR OF THE YEAR
Olivier Awards 1985
ACTOR OF THE YEAR
London Standard Awards 1985
"BRILLIANTLY FUNNY" Obs.
TORCH SONG TRILOGY
by Harvey Fierstein

ALDWYCH THEATRE, 01-836 6404/ 0641 01-379 6233 CC accepted. Mon-Sat 2.30 & 7.30 (No perf 25 Dec)
BONNIE LANGFORD JOSS ACKLAND
in
J. M. BARRIE'S
PETER PAN
THE MUSICAL
Grp Sales 01-930 6123
CC 240 7m inc Sun 01-741 9999
or First Call 01-240 7200.

AMBASSADORS THEATRE, West St. WC2 01-836 6111. CC 01-836 1171/ 01-741 9999 Grp Sales 01-930 6123. Ev 6-t Mon-Fri at 8 pm. Tue Mat 2.45 pm. Sats 6 pm & 8.45 pm. (No perfs 24 & 25 Dec. 26 Dec 6pm. 27 & 28 Dec 6.0 & 8.45)
THE THEATRE OF COMEDY COMPANY
DINSDALE LIZA
LANDEN GOLDARD
JOHN QUAYLE
CAROL STEPHEN
HAWKINS LEATHERLAND
and GEOFFREY SUMNER
in
WIFE BEGINS AT FORTY
A delightful new comedy
Set Eve perfs sold out until mid Jan.

APOLLO THEATRE 01 437 2663/4 434 3598/92 7200 7 day cc bookings First Call 240 7200.
PENELOPE KEITH
MARK KINGSTON
in
THE DRAGON'S TAIL
"Funny & entertaining" City Limits
A new play by Douglas Watkinson
Directed by Michael Rudman
Eves Mon-Fri 7.30 Thurs Mat 3.00 Sats 5.0 & 8.15. Group Sales 01-930 6123

APOLLO VICTORIA SS 828 8665 CC 630 6262 Grp Sales 930 6123
STARLIGHT EXPRESS
Music by
ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER
Lyrics by Directed by
Richard STILGOE Trevor NUNN
"A BRILLIANT THEATRICAL MIX ANYTHING AROUND IN EVERY DIMENSION" D Exp.
Eves 7.45 Mat Tue & Sat 3.00
Best offer open 10am-8pm
BOOKING TO END OF SEPTEMBER '86
SPECIAL CONCESSIONS AT £7.50
OUTSIDE SEATS FOR OLD AGE PENSIONERS AVAILABLE UNTIL APRIL '86 CONCESSIONARY SEATS (£8.50) FOR STUDENTS AT THE DOOR AT £7.00 FOR ANY PERF WHEN AVAILABLE.

ASHCROFT CROYDON, 01-688 9291; CC 01-680 9563. Until 28 Jan. Fun-filled family pantomime.
Helen Shapiro Nicholas Parsons
Pete Murray A J Harvey
Sara Hollamby in
DICK WHITTINGTON

ASTORIA THEATRE Box Off., cc & Groups 01-734 4287 437 8772
THE OUTSTANDING MUSICAL LENNON
A celebration of the life and music of John Lennon. "WONDERFUL. I REALLY LOVED IT" BBC1 WYMAN. "THEY COULDN'T HAVE DONE IT BETTER" CYNTHIA LENNON.
"I WAS UP THERE CHEERING WITH EVERYONE ELSE AT THE END"
Additional mat Sun at 4.00. Eves Tues to Sat 8.00 Mats Sat & Sunday 4.00. No perf Dec 24. Extra Mat Dec 27 at 4.00.

BARBICAN 01-628 8795/01-638 8891 cc (Mon-Sun 10am-8pm)
ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY
BARBICAN THEATRE today 2.00 & 7.30 AS YOU LIKE IT. "An evening to delight the heart" D Tel. (Less avail for perfs to 28 Dec, except 24, 25 Dec).
THE PIT today, 2.00 & 7.30 MELONS, a new play by Bernard Pomerance, the award-winning author of The Elephant Man (Ltd avail for perfs to 28 Dec. except 24, 25 Dec).
RSC also at Comedy & Palace.

BLOOMSBURY TH, Gordon St, WC1. 387 9629, CC 380 1455, Ex. Sun. Until Jan 4, Eves 8pm, Ex 24-26 Dec. 1 Jan.
HARVEY & THE WALLBANGERS
New Show: Pack The Tiger.

BLOOMSBURY TH, Gordon St, WC1. 387 9629, CC 380 1455.
Dec 26-Jan 11, 11am & 2.30pm
THE GINGERBREAD MAN
Mon-Thurs £4.50, Fri-Sun £5.50.

BUSH THEATRE 743 3388. A PRAYER FOR WINGS by Sean Mathias. One of the best new plays on the Fringe" Obs. Tonight & Sun 8pm. Closes 23-25 Dec inc.

COMEDY S 930 2578 CC 839 1438 Keith Prowse 741 9999 (240 7200 7 day /24 hr). Grp Sales 930 6123 Eves 8.0. Wed Mats 3.0. Sats 5.0 & 8.30.
"Remarkable achievement" Time
ROYAL SHAKESPEARE CO's
CAMILLE
by Pam Gems. Dir: Ron Daniels
"THERE IS NO PLACE TO SEAT THIS" Out "FRANCES BARBER'S MAGNIFICENT CAMILLE Obs "MARVELLOUS" City Lmts "A COMPELLING EVENING" N Statsman.
RSC also at the Barbican

COTTESLOE S 928 2252 CC (National Theatre's small auditorium). Today 2.30 & 7.30. Mon-7.30, then Dec 25 THE CHERRY ORCHARD. by Chekhov. (The building will be closed Dec 24 & 25).

CRITERION S 930 3216, CC 379 6565, 741 9999, Grp Sales 836 3962. Eves 8.00 exc. Thurs. 2.30. Sat. 5.30 and 8.30. No perf Dec 25. "BRITISH FACE AT ITS BEST" D. Mail
The Theatre of Comedy Company
BERNARD CRESSY
CRIMMINS HOLLAND
BERNARD BRESSLAW
LINDA HAYDEN HELEN
HAYDEN KELLY
PAUL SAM
DARROW KELLY
RUN FOR YOUR WIFE!
Written and directed by
RAY COONEY

DONMAR WAREHOUSE 240 8230 CC 379 6565/6433. Eves 8.00.
STEVEN BERKOFF
returns with world premiere of Harry's Christmas & Tales. Hall Hearth Until 18 January. Late comers will not be admitted.

DOMINION THEATRE "TIME" HOTLINES 01-580 9848 Box office 01-636 8888 / 9 or 01-580 9562/3 24 hr 7 Day CC Booking 01-636 2428. Grp sales 01-930 6123
Opens April 1986
DAVE CLARK'S
TIME
THE MUSICAL
CLIFF RICHARD
AS "THE ROCK STAR"
THE PORTRAYAL OF AKASH BY
LAURENCE OLIVIER

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DAVID MERRICK'S
42ND STREET
WINNER OF ALL THE BEST MUSICAL AWARDS FOR 1984
BEST MUSICAL
Standard Drama Award
BEST MUSICAL
Laurence Olivier Award
BEST MUSICAL
Plays & Players
London Theatre Critics Award
Eves 8.00. Mats Wed 3.00, Sats 5.00 & 8.30. Closes Dec 24 & 25. Extra mat Thur Dec 26 at 3.00. Group Sales 01-930 6123
Booking open until July 1986.
BOX OFFICE OPEN
Mon-Sat 10am-8pm.

DUCHESS 'S' 836 8243/CC 240 9648 First Call: 24 Hrs 7 Day CC 240 7200
THE SLOANE RANGER REVUE
Eves 8.15. Fri & Sat 6.00 & 9.00.
"OKAY YAH, THAT'S BRILL!"
Standard.
6TH STUNNING WEEK!
EXTRA MATINEE ON BOXING DAY AT 5.00.

DUKE OF YORK'S 836 5122 CC 836 9837/741 9999 Grp 930 6123. Eves 8 & 8.30. Mat Thurs 2.30. Sat 5.30 & 8.30.
2ND YEAR OF THE AWARD WINNING COMEDY HIT
STEPPING OUT
"TRIUMPH ON TAP" Eve Std
The Hit Comedy by Richard Harris
Directed by Julia McKenzie
COMEDY OF THE YEAR
Standard Drama Award 1984
"LAUGH YOURSELF SILLY" T Out.
"Hugely entertaining" Sunday Times
D Mail. "Must surely take the town . . . Go NOW" D Tel. "Roars of approval" Times. "It's going to tap, tap, tap forever" C o W.

FORTUNE CC 01-836 2238/9 cc 240 7200 24hrs 7 day. Until 11 Jan. Mon. Tue, Fri and Sat 2.30pm. Wed. Thu 1.30 & 4.15pm. (No perf 25 Dec)
DAVID JONES
(TV's The Monkees) in
GODSPELL
Perfect Christmas family treat.

FORTUNE S CC 836 2238/2238. 741 9999 Eves 8. Fri/Sat 6 & 8.40
COMEDY OF THE YEAR
Laurence Olivier Awards 1984
UP AND UNDER
By John Godber
"A WONDERFUL COMEDY" S Times "splendid." D Tel. "One of the funniest and least expensive ways of getting to see TOTALLY HYSTERICAL" Obs. "Excitement and hilarity . . . tremendous audience joy. Clap and cheer." S Tel. "A JOY", S Exp.

GARRICK S CC 01-836 4601, 379 6433 Eves 8.0, Mat Wed 3.00, Sat 5.0 24 Dec 8pm. No perf 25 Dec. 26 Dec 8p. 27 & 28 Dec 6pm & 8pm.
NO SEX, PLEASE – WE'RE BRITISH

GLOBE CC 01-437 1592.
First Call 24 Hr 7 Day CC 240 7200.
Andrew Lloyd Webber presents the COMEDY OF THE YEAR
Society of West End Theatre Award '85
DAISY PULLS IT OFF
by Denise Deegan
Directed by David Gilmore
Eves 8.0 Mats Wed 3.0 & Sat 4.0
Group Sales 930 6123.
"THIS IS AN ABSOLUTE HOOT & A SCREAM" Sunday Times
THIRD GREAT YEAR
OVER 1,000 PERFORMANCES
EXTRA MAT ON THU 26 DEC AT 4.00 PM

GREENWICH THEATRE 01-858 7755. Evenings 7.45. Mat Sat 2.30. No perfs Dec 25, 24, 25. Dec 26 special mat at 3.30. JUDY A musical play by Terry Wale.

HAMPSTEAD, 722 9301. Eves 8pm. Sat Mats 4.30pm. ON THE EDGE by Guy Hibbert.

HAYMARKET THEATRE ROYAL Box office & CC 01-930 9832, cc hotline 741 9999, Group Sales 930 6123.
SUSANNAH DENIS YORK QUILLEY
in
"One of the most sophisticated whodunnits of recent times . . . this thriller certainly thrills" D. Tel.
BERNARD SLADE's
FATAL ATTRACTION
Directed by David Gilmore
Eves 7.30, Mats Weds 2.30, Sat 3.0.

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"A wonderful theatrical family entertainment for your seasonal delight, for ad

هكذا من الأصل

THE WEEK AHEAD





Animal magic: Louis Hilyes and Susannah Hitching as Toad and Ratty from The Adventures of Toad, playing at the Swan, Worcester; and Bonnie Langford in full flight as Peter Pan at the Aldwych, London

THEATRE

OPENINGS

CINDERELLA: Des O'Connor, Paul Nicholas, Dame Anna Neagle, Sarah Payne, John Junkin, in the most elaborate of London's traditional pantomimes.
Palladium (01-437 7373/2055). Previews today (matinée). Opens Mon.

SELECTED

GUYS AND DOLLS: Norman Rossington, Clare Peters and Betsy Brantly in this revival from the National. Lulu takes over the role of Miss Adelaide from Cristina Avery in mid-January.
Prince of Wales (01-930 8681). No perf Wed or Thurs: extra matinée Fri



Guy: Norman Rossington

LOVE FOR LOVE: Peter Wood's revival of Congreve has Tim Curry, Michael Bryant, Basil Henson and Sara Kestelman.
Lyttelton (01-928 2252). In repertory. No perf Tues or Wed, Dec 24,25.

TORCH SONG TRILOGY: Harvey Fierstein's Broadway hit provides a showcase for Anthony Sher as the plucky drag queen and for Miriam Karlin and Ian Sears.
Albery (01-836 3878). No perf Tues or Wed, Dec 24, 25.

LEICESTER: The Phoney Physician: Nancy Meckler directs the acclaimed Studio company in a translation (by Jacek Laskowski) of Molière's *Le Médécin Malgré Lui*.
Haymarket Studio (0533 539797). Until Jan 11. No perf Wed, Dec 25.

WORCESTER: The Adventures of Toad: John Grimm's adaptation from the book *The Wind in the Willows* by Kenneth Grahame, with Louis Hilyer (above) as Toad. Music by Ron McAllister.
Worcester Repertory Company. Swan Theatre (0905 27322). Until Jan 11. No perfs Tues and Wed, Dec 24, 25.

YORK: Jack and the Beanstalk: Traditional pantomime by Andrew McKinnon and Berwick Kaler (who is a popular Dame here).
Theatre Royal (0904 23568). Until Jan 25. No perf Wed, Dec 25.

For ticket availability performance and opening times, telephone the numbers listed.
Theatre: Tony Patrick and Martin Cropper; Galleries: Sarah Jane Checkland; Photography: Michael Young; Dance: John Percival; Films: Geoff Brown; Concerts: Max Harrison; Rock & Jazz: Richard Williams; Opera: Hilary Finch; Bookings: Anne Whitehouse

FILMS

OPENINGS

ALICE IN WONDERLAND (U): Curio collectors should snap up this Anglo-French puppet version of Lewis Carroll's classic, completed in 1950 but never released in Britain. With Carol Marsh (above) as the live-action Alice and 155 grotesque creatures made of polyurethane latex; co-directed by Lou Bunin and Dallas Bower.
Everyman. (01-435 1525). From Fri.

SELECTED

BACK TO THE FUTURE (PG): Overblown fantasy from the House of Spielberg with an engaging central idea. Michael J. Fox stars as the modern teenager whisked back to 1955 when fashions – and his parents – were far different.
Empire, Leicester Square. (01-437 1234).

A ZED AND TWO NOUGHTS (18): Peter Greenaway's massively bizarre story of love, decay and evolution among zoo employees and animals. Elegant, disturbing, and ultimately infuriating.
Lumiere, (01-836 0691).

AGONY (PG): Elem Klimov's powerful portrait of Russia in revolutionary turmoil, with a virtuoso performance from Alexei Petrenko as Rasputin and ingeniously used archive footage.
Camden Plaza, (01-485 2443). Chelsea Cinema; (01-351 3742).

NINETEEN NINETEEN (15): Sober and worthy BFI production with Paul Scofield and Maria Schell as former patients of Sigmund Freud, remembering the past; a first feature by anthropologist Hugh Brody.
Curzon Mayfair. (01-499 3737).

CONCERTS

AEOLIAN VIVALDI: The Aeolian Singers fuse with the Vivaldi Concertante for Handel's *Zadok the Priest*, excerpts from his *Messiah*, Bach's Brandenburg Concerto No 2, excerpts from Vivaldi's *Gloria*.
St John's, Smith Square, London SW1 (01-222 1061). Today, 7.30pm.

KIRI CHRISTMAS: Dame Kiri Te Kanawa, with the Tallis Choir and Philharmonia Orchestra under Carl Davis, sings old favourites such as *Let the Bright Seraphim* and *White Christmas*.
Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London EC2 (01-628 8795; credit cards 01-638 8891).Mon, 7.45pm.

ALL BEETHOVEN: Norman del Mar conducts the RPO in the *Egmont* Overture and Symphony No 5 while Sir Yehudi Menuhin solos in Beethoven's Violin Concerto.
Barbican Centre. Thurs, 7.45 pm.

BROADSIDE: The Broadside Band offers carols, brawls, country dances, pieces by Coprario, Robert Johnson, from Arbeau's *Orchésographie*.
Wigmore Hall, 36 Wigmore Street, London, W1 (01-935 2141). Fri, 7.30 pm.

CAMERATA LYSY: Sir Yehudi again, this time directing Camerata Lysy in concertos by Vivaldi and Mozart.
Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191).Fri, 7.45 pm.

RPO/WORDSWORTH: Rossini's *William Tell* Overture, Grieg's *Peer Gynt* Suite No 1, Dvorak's "New World" Symphony are all heard from the RPO under Barry Wordsworth.
Barbican Centre. Fri, 7.45 pm.

GALLERIES

OPENINGS

A LIFE'S WORK: Sculpture in bronze, slate, stone and glass by the Welsh-born sculptor Moelwyn Merchant who is also an academic and an Anglican clergyman.
National Museum of Wales, Cathays Park, Cardiff (0222 397951). From today.

SELECTED

HALLELUJAH! HANDEL: Celebration of 300th anniversary of the composer's birth with paintings, sculpture, engravings, musical instruments and scores.
National Portrait Gallery, St Martin's Place, London WC2 (01-930 1552).

LOST MAGIC KINGDOMS: First exhibition at the Museum of Mankind to involve a major contemporary artist. A selection of ethnography – including a two-headed fetish from Zaire and a sun-baked brick from Mali – selected by the abstract artist Eduardo Paolozzi.
Museum of Mankind, Burlington Gardens, London W1 (01-636 1555).

ROBERT NOORTMAN: Opening exhibition for leading dealer in 17th-century Dutch and Flemish paintings, with a smattering of French 19th-century works as well.
Noortman, 40-41 Old Bond Street, London W1 (01-491 7284).

HAND SIGNALS: Images of the human hand in various media by an impressive line-up of artists including June Redfern, Richard Long and Stuart Brisley. Also Stephen Bell: Computer-generated images by the artist-in-residence at Kent University 1984-5.
Ikon Gallery, 58-72 John Bright Street, Birmingham (021 643 0708).

EDOUARD MANET: Etchings by the French 19th-century artist, revealing his interest in both Japanese and Spanish art.
Walker Art Gallery, William Brown Street, Liverpool (051 227 5234).

OPERA

ROYAL OPERA: *Figaro* reigns supreme at either end of a ballet-centred week at Covent Garden: performances of the revival of John Copley's production of Mozart's opera tonight at 7pm and December 28 at 7.30pm with Jonathan Summers in the title role, Yvonne Kenny as the Susanna and Anne Sofie von Otter, the success of the evening, as the Cherubino.
Covent Garden, London WC2 (01- 240 1066).

ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA: Tonight and on Fri at 7pm, Jonathan Miller's new production of *Don Giovanni*, notable for its snappy new translation by Anthony and Amanda Holden, and handsome if austere design by Philip Prowse.
Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (01-836 3161).

OPERA NORTH: Tonight and on Fri at 7.15pm, the company's new production of Puccini's goldrush opera, *La fanciulla del West*, with a cast led by Mary Jane Johnson, John Treleaven and Malcolm Donnelly. On Monday, another David Pountney production: Rimsky-Korsakov's *The Golden Cockerel*, a pantomimic production, suitably festive, and originally seen in the repertoire of Scottish Opera.
Grand Theatre, New Briggate, Leeds (0532 459351).

ROCK & JAZZ

PARTY FOR THE UNEMPLOYED: Madness, Imagination, Gregory Isaacs and Marc Almond are among those turning out for this all-day jamboree.
Today, The Big Tops, Finsbury Park, London N4 (01-800 4743).

SILVER JUBILEE: The achievement of 25 years of jazz in a friendly pub by Barnes Bridge is celebrated tonight by two quintets, the first led by drummer Clark Tracey (son of Stan), the second by two tenor saxophonists, Don Weller and Art Themen.
Tomorrow's all-day session, the last event in the anniversary, features Latin bands – Paz, Jazz Turbo, the Holloway All Stars and Jeff Clyne's new group – from noon to 11pm.
Today and tomorrow, Bull's Head, 373 Lonsdale Road, London SW13 (01-876 5241).

DIRE STRAITS: Concluding a year in which they added the United States to their list of conquests.
Tonight, tomorrow and Mon. Hammersmith Odeon, Queen Caroline Street, London, W6 (01-748 4081).

NILS LOFGREN: Familiar to millions as Bruce Springsteen's rhythm guitarist on the *Born in the USA* tour, Lofgren shows he has some decent songs of his own.
Tonight, Brighton Dome (0273 601674); tomorrow, Bournemouth



On tour: Nils Lofgren

Conference Centre (0202 297297); Mon, St Austell Coliseum (0726 814004).

SILVER WEDDING: Old friends and accomplices will be out in force to celebrate the silver wedding of Stan and Jackie Tracey – he one of Britain's finest jazz musicians, she a force for good in the British jazz scene. His quartet will doubtless be the platform for a galaxy of guest soloists.
Tomorrow, Bass Clef, 35 Coronet Street, London N1 (01-729 2476).

MIDGE URE: The star of Ultravox and Live Aid gives a Christmas show in aid of Capital Radio's toys-for-children appeal.
Mon, Wembley Arena (01-902 1234).

BILLY BRAGG: Bragg's abrasive moan is supported by the country-style comedian Hank Wangford and the geisha a'go-go ironies of Frank Chickens, two Japanese women.
Fri, Manchester Apollo (061 273 1112).

PHOTOGRAPHY

THE WOODBURYTYPE: Small exhibition of the earliest reliable technique for printing photographs, developed in the 19th century.
National Museum of Photography, Princes' View, Bradford, West Yorkshire (0274 727488).

THE MYSTERIES: Nobby Clark documents the development of the National Theatre's three plays, from 1977 to this year's television recording for Channel 4.
National Theatre, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 2033).

The Nutcracker treat



Perfect harmony: Angela DeMello, Fiona Brockway, Karen Paisey and Maria Almeida in The Nutcracker at Covent Garden

DANCE

It's a nutcracking Christmas with rival productions of Tchaikovsky's ballet north and south of the Thames and another in Scotland. The Royal Ballet offers Rozhdestvensky conducting at Covent Garden (01-240 1066) on Monday, Thursday matinee and evening and Friday. London Festival Ballet's production opens on Thursday and performs twice daily for the first fortnight of its three-week run at the Royal Festival Hall. (01-928 3191) with many casts. Scottish Ballet is at the Edinburgh Playhouse (031-557 2590) this afternoon and evening, then at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow (041-331 1234) on Monday, Tuesday (matinee only) and Friday matinee and evening, continuing until January 11.

Travellers abroad will find many other versions, the best of which are Nureyev's, at the Paris Opéra until December 31, and Balanchine's for the New York City Ballet until January 5.

Meanwhile, the final chance to catch London Contemporary Dance Theatre at Sadler's Wells (01-278 8916) is tonight in a programme with *Stabat Mater*, *The Annunciation* and *Class*. And three superstars will be appearing in two programmes on Channel 4: *Baryshnikov on Broadway* (tomorrow, 7.15pm) and *Fonteyn and Nureyev: The Perfect Partnership* (Christmas Day, 8.45pm).

SCREEN

A respect for adolescents

In his new film, Firstborn, Michael Apted explores the problems facing a child when moral order disintegrates. He talks to Melinda Camber Porter

"What I'm trying to put down is the idea of the film director as genius. I've never believed that. So I absolutely don't buy the mystical approach to film-making. I always believe that the more people know about what's going on, the better the film will be. I don't believe it's a great mystery, known only to me and a few other directors", says Michael Apted, discussing his film *Firstborn*.

Although he is British, Apted has gained the reputation of being one of the most perceptive chroniclers of American life. *Coal Miner's Daughter* established his uncanny talent for dealing with subject-matter that was completely alien to his own experience. *Firstborn*, to be released early next year, is another essay in Americana, describing the precocious maturing of a first-born son who is obliged to take on the responsibility for the household when his divorced mother (Teri Garr) falls in love with a disturbed character.

Apted explores the problems that a child faces when the moral order of an institution, be it home or school, disintegrates. He had seen his own two sons unable to deal with the chaotic atmosphere of Californian schools. He says that he eventually decided to send the boys back to England to be educated. "The older boy retreated into himself, and I was afraid that the younger would become a surfer. I also became paranoid about the drug-orientated style of the schools." His children were not faced with the disintegration of their home, for Apted has been safely married for 17 years and describes himself as leading "an emotionally sheltered life". But he was severely shaken by seeing the distress his sons went through when they were moved from an English school to the unruly playground of one in California.

Perhaps his feeling of sympathy for his children gave him a basis for understanding the character of Jake, the first-born son. Apted decided to shoot the film as seen through the eyes of the young boy. He appears in every sequence, and the story is known to the audience only to the extent that the boy knows it.

"It is a genuine point-of-view film. And they are extremely difficult to do. They can be very constricting. It means that every single situation had to be carefully worked out beforehand by the scriptwriter and me and the boy, Chris Collet, so that his response to everything was represented.

'It was a nightmare casting this role'

"What really attracted me to the material was the way the two boys forge a relationship. They just start in the film as two kids who are kicking the hell out of each other. Suddenly they develop a love for each other. I can't identify with the thrust of the story, but I can remember my brother and myself knocking the hell out of each other. Then we became close, not through any great crisis, but just as part of growing up."

Apted spent many months casting *Firstborn*, searching for a young boy who had experienced the situation described in the film. Whilst he finds it necessary for a director to have personal experience relevant to his subject-matter, he has often preferred to use non-professional actors who are actually playing themselves.

"It was a nightmare casting this particular role for many reasons. If you cast a child wrongly, then you're sunk, because children have very little range. I do find that children come with fewer preconceptions. And maybe they can sometimes come with more basic truthfulness. They respond directly to what is in front of them. I enjoy directing children a great deal."

On many levels, Apted continues to draw on documentary techniques for the making of his Hollywood features. He says that he was given the chance to direct his feature, *Triple Echo*, because Glenda Jackson (who co-starred) had a busy schedule and the film had to be made in record time. He was known already for being a reliable, efficient television director who could make a film to schedule and would not go over budget.

He started as a researcher at Granada Television, after graduating from Cambridge with a degree in law and history. Soon he became an investigative reporter for *World in Action* and then moved on to direct *Coronation Street* as well as a wide variety of television dramas. He was brought to Hollywood by the producer Ray Stark to direct a feature that was never made. Instead he ended up directing *Coal Miner's Daughter*.

Apted feels that it is impossible to judge a director on the basis of his latest film.

"I work equally hard on each film I make. But some work and some don't and I try to analyse why, but it's impossible to know. And I think it happens like this to all directors."

Apted may have learnt that he cannot be in complete control of his final product, but in every area where he can have control he takes it. Unlike many directors, he tries to be absolutely clear about the storyline, and the themes. During our conversations he kept attempting to explain the core of *Firstborn*. He dislikes improvisation, and he even decides in advance on the way he will treat the actors. In the case of *Firstborn*, he decided to keep his feelings in check, and adopted a rather disciplinarian stance towards the young boys.

"My concern is to maintain a distance between me and the boys. I think that, if you are too close to them and too familiar with them, then there can be lack of respect. I like to be hard on them and I like having people around on the set who are very soft with them. Because I want them to think that they are doing a job for me and I'm not necessarily their friend."

'I get bored watching improvised films'

Apted's attempts to reduce the emotional dramas on the set, in order to concentrate on the job at hand, may give him a lucidity unclouded by passion. But he wonders whether his approach may prevent the actors from reaching inspired heights of emotion.

"When you improvise, there are moments when an actor does something he has never done before. But I don't care to improvise while I'm shooting. I don't feel confident enough in my abilities as a writer and I tend to get very bored when I watch improvised films."

Apted hopes that *Firstborn* deals with the theme of adolescence in a respectful way. He feels that is is time for the Hollywood industry to see a film about adolescents that does not exploit them.



Michael Apted: a perceptive chronicler of American life

BOOKINGS

FIRST CHANCE

WELSH NATIONAL OPERA: Spring season includes three new productions, of *Otello*, *The Barber of Seville*, and *Wozzeck*, plus return of *Cosi fan tutte*; in Cardiff and Swansea. Subscription booking now open, with single booking from Jan 20.
Cardiff New Theatre, Swansea Grand Theatre, or WNO, Freepost, Cardiff CF1 1YZ.

BEETHOVEN CHAMBER CYCLE: Six concerts covering Beethoven's complete works for piano trio, violin and piano, and cello and piano. Jan 2-19.
Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191; credit cards: 01-928 8800).

SHIRLEY BASSEY: On tour next April, with venues including Brighton, Manchester, Blackpool, Bournemouth, Cardiff and London. Details: telephone 01-589 8212, or Keith Prowse (01-747 8989).

LAST CHANCE

GERMAN ART IN THE 20th CENTURY: Assessment of the achievements of German artists, from the Die Brücke movement to the neo-expressionist painters of the 1980s. The exhibition includes more than 250 works by 50 artists. Finishes tomorrow. Admission £3.20.
Royal Academy of Arts, Piccadilly, London W1 (01-734 9052).

Hunting Group Art Prizes 1986
NATIONAL OPEN ART COMPETITION
Prizes totalling £15,000
Entry details from The Mall Galleries 17 Carlton House Terrace London SW1Y 5BD Tel. 01-930 6844

HOLIDAY TELEVISION AND RADIO

By Peter Waymark



Couples: (from left) Diane Keaton and Warren Beatty in Reds (ITV, today); Peter Firth and Nastassja Kinski in Tess (BBC2, Mon); Jeremy Irons and Meryl Streep in The French Lieutenant's Woman (BBC2, tomorrow)

The starry-eyed view of Christmas

Pull the curtains, dim the lights and let celluloid fantasy take over. There is nothing to stop you, with nearly 60 feature films showing over Christmas week. Some, like *Reds*, *The French Lieutenant's Woman* and *Tess*, are television premieres. Others, from *The Great Escape* to *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* have become familiar fare at this time of year.

There are three special seasons, all of which continue into the New Year. BBC2 pays tribute to Orson Welles, who died this year, by showing most of his important features; and also on BBC is a batch of good Hitchcocks. Channel 4 salutes the veteran British film makers, Frank Launder and Sidney Gilliat. They started as writers (notably on Hitchcock's *The Lady Vanishes*) and went on to produce and direct many popular pictures reflecting British life and character.

FILMS ON TV

Pick of the picture show:

a guide to the great, the good and the also-rans

Our recommended ratings – totally subjective – are as follows:

● ● ● not to be missed
● ● highly recommended
● well worth a look

An asterisk on the title of the film indicates that it is being shown on British television for the first time.

TODAY

BBC1

CARRY ON FOLLOW THAT CAMEL (1967)
6.25-8pm
The late Phil Silvers, the immortal Sergeant Bilko, here plays Sergeant Nocker, joining Carry On regulars Kenneth Williams, Charles Hawtrey, Joan Sims and Bernard Bresslaw for a predictable tilt at the Foreign Legion.

DEAD CERT (1974)
11.20pm-12.50am
Early Dick Francis thriller brought disappointingly to the screen by an unlikely director, Tony Richardson. Judi Dench, Scott Anthony and Michael Williams in a tale of murder and nobbled horses, set against the Grand National.

BBC2

THE CHEATERS (1945)
2.10-3.35pm
Engaging piece of seasonal whimsy about a down-and-out actor (Joseph Schildkraut) who brings the Christmas spirit to a grasping family hoping to get its hands on a rich uncle's fortune. Billie Burke and Eugene Pallette as Ma and Pa.

THREE BROTHERS (1980) ● ●
11.20pm-1.15am
BBC2's Francesco Rosi season ends with a story of three sons returning to southern Italy for their mother's funeral and trying to re-establish their roots. A perceptive study of social and personal relationships, with a touching performance by Charles Vanel, the veteran French actor.

ITV

*** REDS (1981) ●**
9.00pm-12.35am
Warren Beatty was producer, director and star of this epic tale of love and politics based on the life of the American writer, John Reed, who witnessed the 1917 Russian revolution and produced a classic book about it, *Ten Days That Shook the World*. With Diane Keaton and a script by the British playwright, Trevor Griffiths.

CHANNEL 4

THE MIKADO (1938)
2.30-4.10pm
Lively version of the Gilbert and Sullivan operetta, made in Britain by the Hollywood director, Victor Schertzinger, and featuring the cream of the D'Oyly Carte Company.

TOMORROW

BBC1

*** THE JAZZ SINGER (1980)**
7.15-9.05pm
Second re-make of cinema's first talkie, with Neil Diamond in the Al Jolson role of the cantor's son who chooses a career in showbusiness and splits the family. Delightful performance by Laurence Olivier as the yiddisher papa.

BBC2

*** THE FRENCH LIEUTENANT'S WOMAN (1981) ● ●**
9.05-11.05pm
John Fowles's complex novel about a Victorian gentleman's affair with a jilted governess adapted by Harold Pinter who adds a parallel modern story. Brave stab at a difficult subject with Jeremy Irons, Meryl Streep and striking Dorset locations.

MONDAY

BBC1

THE FOG (1979)
9.25-10.55pm
Atmospheric but slow-to-burn horror hokum from director John Carpenter in which the inhabitants of a small Californian town are terrorized by the ghosts of dead sailors. With Janet Leigh and her real-life daughter, Jamie Lee Curtis.

BBC2

CLEOPATRA (1963)
2.35-6.35pm
Overlong, overbudgeted and dramatically undernourished star vehicle for Richard Burton and Elizabeth Taylor. The compensations are Rex Harrison's imperious Caesar and Leon Shamroy's lush camerawork, which won him an Oscar.

*** TESS (1979) ● ●**
8.00-10.45pm
Roman Polanski's reverential rendering of the Thomas Hardy novel about a tragic peasant girl destroyed by faithful suitors. Normandy doubles for 19th century Dorset and there is a surprisingly good central performance from the young Nastassja Kinski.

NINE TO FIVE (1980)
10.20pm-12.20am
Uneven comedy from writer-director Colin Higgins about three office girls in revolt against their chauvinistic boss. Sparkling performance from the underused Lily Tomlin; Jane Fonda and Dolly Parton play her colleagues.

CHANNEL 4

THE LITTLE COLONEL (1935) ●
2.30-4pm
Charming Shirley Temple vehicle which has the little moppet reconciling an American Deep South family after the Civil War and doing a memorable tap dance with the black entertainer, Bill "Bojangles" Robinson.

BULLDOG DRUMMOND'S SECRET POLICE (1939)
11.25pm-12.30am
Fifth of seven B pictures made by Paramount in the late 1930s and starring John Howard as "Sapper's" intrepid adventurer. In this one he once more postpones his wedding while he looks for the killer of a professor.

CHRISTMAS EVE

BBC1

THE SLIPPER AND THE ROSE (1976)
2-4.20pm
Overlong musical version of Cinderella, directed by Bryan Forbes, with Gemma Craven as Cinders and Richard Chamberlain as Prince Charming. The songs are forgettable but Dame Edith Evans leads a talented band of supporting players.

BBC2

DOCTOR DOLITTLE (1967)
4.20-6.40pm
Stodgy musical derived from the books of Hugh Lofting about the Victorian vet who can talk to his animals. Rex Harrison does his polished best to atone for the duller bits and there are pretty Wiltshire locations.

THE INNOCENTS (1961) ● ●
10.30pm-12.05am
Director Jack Clayton followed his mould-breaking *Room At the Top* with this stylish and atmospheric rendering of Henry James's Victorian ghost story, *The Turn of the Screw*. Deborah Kerr as the governess whose young charges are possessed by demons.

ITV

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE THIRD KIND (1978) ●
1.30pm-3.55pm
Slight story of friendly UFOs descending on an awed Indiana town transmuted into box-office gold by wonder boy director Steven Spielberg and special effects which lose some of their potency on the small screen. This is the "special edition" with additional sequences.

*** ARTHUR (1980)**
9-10.45pm
Dudley Moore as a drunk forced to mend his ways to claim an inheritance, but the film is stolen by John Gielgud's Oscar-winning performance as the prim valet prone to uttering beautifully modulated four-letter words.

CHANNEL 4

INSPECTOR HORNLEIGH ON HOLIDAY (1939) ●
2.35-4.15pm
Channel 4's tribute to Frank Launder and Sidney Gilliatt opens with their lively script for this enjoyable comedy thriller starring Gordon Harker and Alastair Sim as policemen solving a murder at the seaside.

THE LADY VANISHES (1938) ● ● ●
9.35-11.25pm
Another Launder-Gilliat script, this time for Alfred Hitchcock's joyous thriller about a little old lady who disappears from a Continental train. The film introduced a celebrated Launder-Gilliat creation, the cricket fanatics Charters and Caldicott played by Basil Radford and Naunton Wayne.

CHRISTMAS DAY

BBC1

THE GNOME-MOBILE (1967)
10.05-11.28am
Engaging whimsy from the Walt Disney stable, with the veteran Walter Brennan doubling as a millionaire grandad and a 900-year-old gnome in a story by Upton Sinclair, garnished with clever trick photography and talking animals.

*** ABSENCE OF MALICE (1981) ●**
10.40pm-12.35am
Sydney Pollack's measured study of the abuses of press freedom has strong playing by Paul Newman as an innocent Miami liquor merchant fighting to clear his name. Sally Field is the reporter who unwittingly helps to frame him.

BBC2

CITIZEN KANE (1941) ● ● ●
4.30-6.25pm
The BBC2 Orson Welles tribute starts with his dazzlingly precocious debut at the age of 24, a many-layered portrait of a newspaper tycoon composed with the full richness of cinema art. Welles himself plays Kane; the rest of the cast were unknowns from his Mercury Theatre. A strong candidate for the best film ever made, certainly the best on television this Christmas.



Fine feathers: Audrey Hepburn and Rex Harrison in the perennial favourite, My Fair Lady

*** DIVA (1982) ●**
10-11.55pm
Cult thriller from French director Jean-Jacques Beineix, in which plot takes second place to chic style. The main ingredients are a black American opera singer, a young admirer who secretly records her, drugs and murder.

ITV

THE BLACK HOLE (1979)
11.15am-1pm
Maximilian Schell as a mad scientist determined to learn the secrets of a mysterious black hole in space. A spirited anthology of ideas from other sci fi films

MOONRAKER (1979)
3.05-5.30pm
Roger Moore as James Bond confronted with a missing space shuttle, a megalomaniac millionaire bent on world domination and seven-foot hit man. An undemanding way to settle the Christmas lunch.

GREGORY'S GIRL (1980) ●
10.50pm-12.30am
Bill Forsyth's shrewdly-observed comedy about young love in a Scottish new town. Gordon John Sinclair as the gauche schoolboy footballer in amorous and embarrassed pursuit of pretty young Dorothy (Dee Hepburn).

STRANGERS ON A TRAIN (1951) ● ● ●
11.45pm-1.25am
Short Hitchcock season starts with one of his finest, taken from the Patricia Highsmith story of an ambitious tennis player trying to divorce his wife who gets dragged into a murder plot. Lots of nail-biting suspense and a graphic performance from Robert Walker as a charming psychopath.

BBC2

THE HORSE SOLDIERS (1959) ●
11.05am-1.00pm
John Wayne and William Holden doing battle with the Confederates during the American Civil War. John Ford Western some way below his best but containing the extraordinary sequence (based on fact) of child cadets marching against the Union soldiers.

TOUCH OF EVIL (1958) ● ●
4.30-6.15pm
Moody and compulsive Orson Welles thriller, set on the American-Mexican border, with Welles as a corrupt police chief clashing with narcotics agent Charlton Heston.

*** LA TRAVIATA (1982) ● ●**
8.30-10.15pm
Franco Zeffirelli's lavish version of the Verdi opera, with Placido Domingo and Teresa Stratos as the tragic lovers. For superior sound, tune in to the simultaneous stereo broadcast on Radio 3.

THE PIRATES ●
11.05pm-12.45am
Colourful, energetic MGM musical with Gene Kelly, Judy Garland and songs by Cole Porter.

ITV

THE GREAT RACE (1965) ●
10.40am-1.25pm
Not "the greatest comedy ever made" as the publicity claimed, but still a very watchable and often inventive concoction of slapstick humour led by Jack Lemmon and Tony Curtis as participants in the first New York to Paris car race.

SUPERMAN (1978)
2.40-5.15pm
Christopher Reeve doubling as bespectacled newspaperman and comic strip hero and giving better value than Marlon Brando, who was paid three million dollars for a ten-minute appearance.

*** WHO DARES WINS (1982)**
9-11.20pm
Lewis Collins of *The Professionals* leads a thuggish, reactionary tale of the SAS inspired by the storming of the Iranian Embassy.

CHANNEL 4

THE RAKE'S PROGRESS (1945) ●
3-5.15pm
Satirical comedy from the Launder-Gilliat team about a 1930s scoundrel who redeems himself during the Second World War. He is played, with characteristic polish, by Rex Harrison; Jean Kent, Lilli Palmer and Margaret Johnston are the women in his life.

*** A DELICATE BALANCE (1974) ●**
10pm-12.30am
Useful film record of Edward Albee's play about the tensions within a Connecticut family, with powerful performances from Katharine Hepburn as the domineering matriarch, Paul Scofield and Lee Remick.

BOXING DAY

BBC1

SWALLOWS AND AMAZONS (1974)
10.50am-12.20pm
Straighforward adaptation of Arthur Ransome's story of the friendly rivalry between two groups of children on holiday in the Lake District. Attractive photography, a feel for period (the 1920s) and Ronald Fraser splendid as Uncle Jim.

THE GREAT ESCAPE (1963) ●
1.25-4.10pm
Yet another holiday airing for John Sturges's blockbuster about the mass breakout from a German prison camp. Consistently engrossing despite its length, with Steve McQueen's motor bike battle against barbed wire the choice sequence.

FRIDAY

BBC1

BEN HUR (1959) ●
2.10-5.35pm
William Wyler's long and painstaking account of the rivalry between a Jew and a Roman tribune at the time of Christ, helped along by a brilliantly staged chariot race. It won a record 11 Oscars.

*** HIGH RISK (1981)**
10.10-11.40pm
Routine caper with James Brolin, Ernest Borgnine and friends breaking into millionaire James Coburn's Colombian villa to relieve him of five million dollars.

SUSPICION (1942) ●
11.40pm-1.15am
Joan Fontaine in her Oscar-winning performance as the British rose who marries playboy Cary Grant and comes to suspect him of being a murderer. Hitchcock thriller which makes delightful use of Hollywood Brits like Nigel Bruce and Dame May Whitty.

BBC2

BUNDLE OF JOY (1956)
11.25am-1pm
Musical re-make of *Bachelor Mother*, with Debbie Reynolds finding a baby on the doorstep of an orphanage and being mistaken for its parent. Eddie Fisher, in his first film, provides the romantic interest.

JOURNEY INTO FEAR (1942) ●
4.10-5.20pm
Though directed by Norman Foster, this atmospheric spy thriller was supervised by Orson Welles and bears his flamboyant trademark. Based on an Eric Ambler novel, it has Joseph Cotten as a munitions expert trapped in Istanbul by Gestapo agents.

MY FAIR LADY (1964) ●
9.20-9.05pm
Handsome, studio-bound version of the Lerner and Loewe hit musical, with Audrey Hepburn playing (but not singing) Eliza Doolittle and Rex Harrison and Stanley Holloway repeating their famous stage performances.

INVITATION TO THE DANCE (1954)
11.35pm-1.05am
Ambitious but patchily successful three-part ballet film created and directed by its star, Gene Kelly.

ITV

DIGBY – THE BIGGEST DOG IN THE WORLD (1973)
1.30-3.10pm
Another Christmas airing for the popular children's comedy about an old English sheepdog which accidentally consumes a plant fertilizer and grows to 30 feet high. With Spike Milligan as a mad German scientist.

CHANNEL 4

MILLIONS LIKE US (1943) ●
3-5pm
The Launder-Gilliat partnership's first exercise in direction, a pleasingly unsentimental portrait of an ordinary British family during the Second World War. With Eric Portman, Patricia Roc and the young Gordon Jackson.

I SEE A DARK STRANGER (1945)
10.45pm-12.50am
Launder-Gilliat comedy-thriller treading what would now be dangerous ground, with Deborah Kerr as an Irish girl who hates the Brits, supports the IRA and the Nazis, but falls in love with an English officer (Trevor Howard).

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The Economist

Love crosses the channels

TELEVISION

By a maddening quirk of the schedules, the two outstanding single dramas of the week are playing against each other tomorrow night.

The offering on ITV is a fine adaptation of Elizabeth Bowen's novel, The Death of the Heart (9.35pm-12.25am). Jojo Cole, a young actress making her professional debut, plays the 16-year-old orphan billeted on unfeeling relatives and forced to seek affection elsewhere. It is a measure of her performance that she is in no way dwarfed by the star names around her.

These include Patricia Hodge, Nigel Havers, Robert Hardy, Phyllis Calvert, Wendy Hiller and Miranda Richardson, all in their different ways helping to catch Bowen's subtle insights into human relationships. A precise use of decor and location gives powerful enrichment to the human drama.

BBC1's Shadowlands (9.20-10.50pm) is, by contrast, virtually a two-hander, based on the the story of the love affair between the writer and don, C. S. Lewis, and an American divorcée. It was an unlikely match. He was well into his 50s and seemingly a confirmed bachelor, she a Communist and a Jew who had written him a fan letter.



Subtle style: Patricia Hodge in The Death of the Heart

Starting as a marriage of convenience to give her British citizenship, the relationship deepened and gathered poignancy from her tragically early death from cancer. In the wrong hands it could have been mawkish. As played by Joss Ackland and Claire Bloom it is a profoundly authentic study of emotion touched to the raw.

Another 20th century love story is charted by Alan Plater in Coming Through (ITV, Fri, 9-10.30pm). Kenneth Branagh plays D. H. Lawrence and Helen Mirren is Frieda Weekley whose affair scandalized the world of 1912.

Arthur Daley takes a famous train in Minder On the Orient Express (ITV, Christmas Day, 7.30-9.30pm) and other feature-length treatments of popular shows include All Creatures Great and Small (BBC1, Christmas Day, 4.55-6.25pm), Only Fools and Horses... (BBC1, Christmas Day, 7.30-9pm) and Tenko Reunion (BBC1, Boxing Day, 9-10.50pm).

Morecambe and Wise, who lit up many a Christmas, are remembered with highlights from their shows on both BBC1 (Monday, 8-9pm) and ITV (Christmas Eve, 8-9pm), introduced in each case by Ernie Wise. Their natural successors are The Two Ronnies, who have a new show on Christmas Day (BBC1, 9-9.50pm).

Among sporting profiles are Channel 4's Viv (Boxing Day, 8-9pm), a celebration of the great West Indian cricketer, Viv Richards, and Boris Becker – Wimbledon Champion (BBC2, Boxing Day, 6.15-7.15pm). In more sombre mood is James Hogg's The Freddie Mills Story (BBC2, Fri, 5.20-6.20pm) which covers the life and mysterious death of a world champion boxer.

As an appetiser for the Orson Welles film season on BBC2, there is a repeat of the revealing Arena documentary (tomorrow, 2.30-5.20pm) and Clive James in Dallas (ITV, Fri, 10.30-11.30pm) finds the portly Australian funster trying to separate fact and fiction amid the rich and famous of Texas.

There is nothing like a Dame

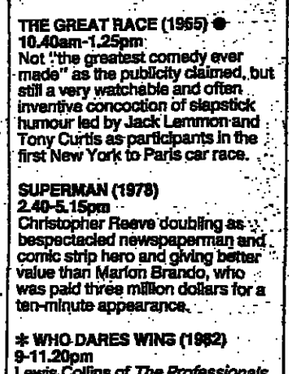
RADIO

Can you imagine Sue MacGregor and Barry Took in *Jack and the Beanstalk*? Or Libby Purves as a Fairy Godmother? Imagine them you can, as Radio 4 gets in on the pantomime season.

Cinderella, with Purves, Nicholas Parsons and Helen Atkinson-Wood in the title role, goes out this evening (11.30pm-midnight) and is one of three seasonal offerings written by Paul Shearer and Nick Symons. *Jack and the Beanstalk* follows tomorrow (10.15-10.45pm) and on Boxing Day (3.30-4pm) there is *Rumpelstiltskin* with Margaret Howard, John Timpson and Brian Redhead.

It is a mere flick of switch from panto to Restoration comedy and a starry production of Wycherley's *The Country Wife* on Radio 3 (tomorrow, 7-9pm). Maggie Smith, making her radio debut, has the name part, with Bernard Hepton as the jealous husband, Jonathan Pryce, John Moffatt, Harriet Walter, Michael Aldridge and Barbara Jefford.

Still on drama, and indeed on star names, Radio 4 has four plays by William Douglas-Home. Michael Denison and Dulcie Gray kick off on Monday with *Lloyd George Knew my Father* (2-3.30pm), with Anna Massey in *The Reluctant Debutante* (Christmas Day, 2-3.30pm), Wendy Hiller and Michael Hordern in *The Kingfisher* (Boxing Day, 2-3.30pm) and Michael Aldridge and Sheila Gish in *The Secretary Bird* (Fri, 2-3.30pm).



Airy debut: Maggie Smith in The Country Wife

Not content with Clancy Sigal's recent portrait, radio is re-treading the Frank Sinatra story in the company of Benny Green. *Sinatra – A Man and his Music* is in three one-hour instalments on Radio 2 (Tues – Thurs, 6-7pm).

Elsewhere the airwaves will be thick with nostalgia. Radio 2 has a recently re-discovered episode of *Hancock's Half Hour*, first broadcast in 1958 but not heard for more than 20 years (Christmas Day, 12.30-1pm), while over six consecutive nights Radio 4 has a Francis Durbridge serial from the 1960s, *Paul Temple and the General Mystery* (6.30-7pm).

Another plundering of the BBC Sound Archives has produced a series of *Classic Features* (Radio 4, Mon-Fri, 12-12.30pm). Subjects include the summer term at Oxford, holiday camps and the building of the London to Yorkshire motorway related ballad-style by Ewan MacColl and Charles Parker.

Among re-runs of more recent vintage is a daily dose of that joyous send-up of panel games, *I'm Sorry I Haven't a Clue* (Radio 4, Mon-Fri, 8.30-9am). The series *With Great Pleasure* has produced many enjoyable programmes. In next week's repeats, those choosing their favourite poetry and prose are Leonard Rossiter (Mon), Celia Johnson (Tues), Michael Hordern (Thurs) and Beryl Reid (Fri). Radio 4, 9.05-9.45am.

A collector's item on Radio 3 is a version of Handel's *Messiah* edited by Sir Thomas Beecham, re-orchestrated by Sir Eugene Goossens, and recorded under Beecham's baton in 1959 (Mon, 7.10-10pm).

And so to what for many listeners will be the highlight of the week, *A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols* from King's College Chapel, Cambridge (Christmas Eve, 3-4.30pm), with stereo available.

هكذا من الأصل

THE ARTS

Gallery

Two stages of art

Yolande Sonnabend
Serpentine

Is Yolande Sonnabend a stage designer who also paints, or a painter who also designs for the stage? And does it matter or make any difference? The retrospective show at the Serpentine Gallery until January 5 seems to have stirred up the same old arguments without supplying any universally accepted answers.

In principle, there seems to be no reason why an artist should not function with equal skill and success in both media, though in practice not so many do: even with someone as finely attuned to theatrical effect as Hockney, the feeling still remains that he is a distinguished visitor to the theatre rather than a permanent resident.

Undeniably many would-be painters in the past have found their true vocation in the theatre and never returned to painting afterwards except as a sort of glorified hobby. And, anyway, snobbery bedevils the distinction: so often it is felt that painting is real art, and theatrical design merely some sort of auxiliary. And then there is Yolande Sonnabend.

She began as a painter, and throughout a spectacularly successful career as a stage designer she has continued to paint with equal enthusiasm. And to work at her painting. Sometimes in the earlier works one senses a certain tendency to fall back on vaguely romantic suggestiveness as a substitute for thinking a painting completely through.

But in the paintings of the last two years, which are the major part of this show, the scattered talents seem to be pulling themselves into focus, and some of the latest portraits are really crisp and perceptive, while elsewhere Sonnabend shows a remarkable ability to produce striking images which are fully painterly and dramatic without being noticeably theatrical: last year's *Seated figure with pink towelling* is perhaps the finest example.

At the same time, the range and variety of her theatrical work are extraordinary, and there is no sign anywhere that she looks down on it or regards it as in any way less "serious" than her painting. The central room has dozens of sketches for ballet, opera and play costumes, racked up formidably in such a way as to suggest that they are there for impressionist effect, but if you ignore the first impression it is pleasing to discover how many repay detailed examination.

The room towards Kensington Gardens proves to be largely occupied with an installation which pulls it all together, fusing the painting and the theatre to exciting effect as well as providing a useful frame for some of the finely inventive masks which have long been a speciality. This part of the show, in fact, would have been an ideal introduction to the whole, and it is surprising that it was not used to kindle the as usual rather bleak room into unpredictable life.

John Russell Taylor



Sonnabend's design for The Queen for Genet's The Blacks

Theatre

The other side of the rainbow

Judy
Greenwich



Dee Conway

Lesley Mackie: remarkable impersonation of Judy Garland

If like me, you detest everything about the late Judy Garland – the records, the movies, the lingering esteem, the "legend" – you will be agreeably surprised by Terry Wale's new musical biography, which presents the star's story as a succession of brisk, economically staged and presumably well-researched scenes from her extraordinary life.

Mr Wale's script (originally commissioned by the Swan Theatre, Worcester) takes his heroine from a ringleted, precocious 12-year-old standing on a wooden box to sing "Zing Went the Strings of my Heart" into a wireless microphone, through the early success with MGM, her first marriage, abortion, Benzedrine, another marriage, Liza Minnelli, more drugs, angst, some more marriages, more booze, Lorna Luft, to the final hotel-room overdose.

It is a sorry catalogue which fails to make us feel at all sorry for her, and John David's production seems to take the right line in dressing the thing up as a staged Hollywood movie: this was, after all, the heroic, luminous era of showbusiness when stars felt obliged to follow the conventions of their scripts off-camera as well as on – their "art" was cliché, their lives were cliché, and so was their public's response.

What makes this show watchable, principally, is the central performance from Lesley Mackie, who has added to her decided advantage of being a half-litre-size brunette the rather uncanny achievement of mimicking Garland's warm, gushy, affected voice in singing *and* speaking. If her lips and teeth do not enjoy quite the tremulous wrestling match of the original, this is still a remarkable impersonation in what has become a highly competitive field. Miss Mackie is also an accomplished actress, switching deftly and persuasively between bounce and lethargy and back to bounce again.

Her support comes in the main from Lewis Cohen doubling as the egregious Louis B. Meyer (he called her "a chubby hunchback that sings like an old lady") and as her third husband Sid Luft, who seems to have spent a good part of their marriage searching the soft furnishings for secreted drugs.

Caroline Holdaway and Alison Skilbeck turn in well-observed cameos as the gossip columnists Louella Parsons and Hedda Hopper, that spendid brace of saccharine bitches, who appear side-by-side at regular intervals to purvey information, advice and comment to a star-struck world: this is as much their story as Judy's.

Martin Cropper

Middle Distance Form: *Hold the Back Page!*

A poor score

The best analogy for the progress of Stan Hey, and Andrew Nickolds's sportswriter's-life series *Hold the Back Page!* is, appropriately, a sporting one: a football manager spends millions on brilliant individual talents and watches them string together intricate passing movements but, because they fail to convert this elegant flow into goals, the team remains doomed to mid-table mediocrity.

This is the problem of *Hold the Back Page!*, which has now reached the seventh episode of 10. Its most recent ratings figures suggest an audience of little more than five million, low for a peak-time serial on BBC 1.

The initial whisperings had hinted at a serial of unusual interest: the television press buzzed at the return from Hollywood of David Warner, signed to play a sportswriter in scripts written by two men who, having served an apprenticeship in the Press Box, were likely to go as far as libel allowed. *Hold the Back Page!* should have been a top-league serial but it manifestly is not. It is the series that ran out of steam.

In 1985 most plays were 30 minutes too long and most serials extended to perhaps twice their natural lives. But this was no accident: initial outlay is now so large that any television project must occupy as big a gap as possible in the schedules. *Hold the Back Page!* feels uneasily like a single, 60-minute play of moderate interest: this week, we reached the seventh hour.

The series tells the story of Ken Wordsworth, led by alimony troubles to leave a quality Sunday newspaper for a second-division tabloid where he becomes "The Poet Laureate of Sport". ("Where's your quill pen then, Ken?") Each week sees him chasing a different sports story.

The initial problem is that the series has failed to find a thematic tack: its satirical targets seem to shift minute by minute. Is it an attack on journalism as a profession, like Hare and Brenton's *Pravda*? Certainly journalists are depicted as a quick-drinking, little-thinking breed, but surely sportswriters are a mild strain of the virus which many take the press to be.

In fact, there are enough lines to suggest that Hey and Nickolds intend their venom for Fleet Street sportswriters alone. "That's the problem with sportswriters: they're old enough to drink but not old enough to be adults", says Ken's former wife portentously.

It has also become apparent that the series' overall tone is an own-goal. The writers reserve much derision for the idiocy of tabloid newspapers, the message appearing to be "Don't put your son on *The Beast*, Mrs Worthington". But to mock the tabloids is dangerous if in pursuit of a popular serial.

"Are you calling the bingo or running a wet T-shirt contest?", asked Ken's cab-driver on his first day. A sizable percentage of the audience for any genuinely popular television serial would read the publications so abused, and there must be little evidence that readers of these papers share the joke about their being served by men who use dictionaries as doorstops. *Hold the Back Page!* risks spitting in the eyes it needs to buy.

Perhaps this series will finally kick the myth that journalism is interesting as a subject for serial drama: *The Standard*, a 1970s BBC effort about a new Scottish newspaper, and the stylish *Lytton's Diary*, about a gossip columnist, both soon left the sub-editor's desk for the bedroom and, in the same way, Hey and Nickolds have tended, in recent weeks, to write more about sport than the tabloid packaging of it.

And so, despite scripts fat with confidences, fine acting from Warner and stylish direction, the series is weak. The chairman, on the present run of results, would seem unlikely to offer the manager another season to get it right.

Mark Lawson



David Warner: view from the Press Box

Lost on a magical mystery tour

Beauty and the Beast
Old Vic

Playwrights tinker with fairy tales at their peril, since they express, so psychologists tell us, conflicts that lie too deep to be resolved except by fairy aid.

Louise Page's retelling of this tale reserves the story we all know – the merchant, three daughters, the rose in the Beast's garden – until the second half, and while there are flying fairies in plenty before the interval there is also considerably more than one wants of kingdoms at war, queens in battle, stolen babies (two of these) and fairies in love with mortals (two of each).

Another innovation, the death of an infant, in which an otherwise decent fairy plays an equivocal role, only casts its blight at the very end, to provide a Malvolio-like exit for the merchant and a thorny curtain-line.

The permanent set of wintry garden and wrought-iron gates serves as background for scenes ostensibly happening in several interiors, poverty-stricken and palatial, as well as a variety of battlefields, over a period of 20 years. During this time embattled queens go on wearing the same undershirts while babes in cradles become adults overnight.

Perhaps children can accept such puzzles but the play – which is not, incidentally, billed as a pantomime – shows a troublesome uncertainty of aim. Too much talk for the very young but with characters too simple for the adult. Too little humour for either, until near the end when, after a much-improved second half, all the characters discover themselves to be long-lost relatives of one another in a scene suggestive of Iolanthe Meets the Valkyries.

In this second act there are passages where the magical, mysterious logic of the story emerges with some success. When Beauty is in the Beast's castle, served by anxious monkeys, she discovers love through play and dance. Though such attractive scenes are likely to be separated by others in which her fairy mother, imprisoned in something like a suspended ice-cube, unburdens herself of thoughts on the absolute nature of love.

Joely Richardson moderates the inevitably rather trying "goodiness" of the heroine with an occasional jab of wit. A nicely determined character of Fairy Attendant emerges from Veronica Quilligan's performance, perhaps all the more so for being earthbound by injury.

Best of all is Jack Klaff's fine-speaking Beast, whose snarls of despair, bursting out of his gentle speech, have the true tragic passion of the imprisoned hero. His abrupt transformation back to humanity behind a sheet of ice brought a gasp of pleasure from an otherwise rather puzzled audience.

Jeremy Kingston

Radio

Brought down to earth

Towards the end of three more or less hedonistic years at Cambridge, I strolled along to visit the Appointments Board. "I rather thought of something in publishing", I ventured to a military-looking type behind a desk.

A purple flush suffused his features and he quickly warmed to a strangled peroration, the burden of which was: "What you damned arts graduates need is to get your feet on the ground! *Publishing! You all want to go* into publishing! Why don't any of you think of industry? Or commerce?" I was deeply shocked. It was not that I did not know my feet were off the ground; I did, and my aim in life was to keep them there. As for industry, commerce . . . My dear! Trade!

I was reminded of this educative encounter when listening to the last in the present series of that admirable programme, In Business (Radio 4, Wednesdays, repeating Thursdays; producer Caroline Millington) in which its regular presenter, Peter Smith, marked the imminence of Industry Year 1986 by enquiring why it is that in 1985 industry is *still* having problems attracting entrants, not merely from the universities – in fact my levitating successors did not figure – but from *much wider ranges of British* society.

Has nothing changed? Not much: 70 per cent of those responding to an *In Business* Marplan survey favoured the professions, though only 25 per cent put them top in national importance; 60 per cent thought industry the most important nationally, but only 21 per cent would recommend it as a career. So the answer to the question posed in last Wednesday's billing, "Are we living in an anti-industrial society?", is predominantly "Yes" and it may be that to ask such a question at all is both simple-minded and indicative, for we have been living in such a society for close on 200 years and apparently some of us have not yet noticed.

The question had already been floated 24 hours earlier when, on Tuesday evening on Radio 3, Mrs Thatcher talked to Michael Charlton and declared her firm intention of seeing to it that less is done to train young people to administration (first cousin to the professions) and more to bring them to science and technology. Have I misheard what virtually every one of her predecessors has been saying since the war? Very much the same, surely – and we are still waiting for it to happen. Will Mrs Thatcher do any better? Her chances are slight if she does not know what she is up against – 200 years of history – and I did not get the impression from this altogether fascinating conversation that she does.

But that was just one point in a series of conversations which Mr Charlton, with Anne Winder as his producer, has been holding at weekly intervals with each of Britain's four political leaders. All have been revealing, not so much of policies, which are always being aired, as of personal style and weight.

David Owen, who led off, quickly floundered in the shallows of political theory, but picked up when it came to talk of practicalities. Next came David Steel, courteous, well-grounded, quick on his feet, measured, yet somehow audibly inexperienced. Then Neil Kinnock: intellectually the most impressive, resolute, widely sympathetic, humorous, but not quite able to convince us that he has the schisms of his party fully under his control.

I thought Mr Charlton leaned on him the hardest, but he found a quite different tone of voice in which to talk to the Prime Minister from any he had employed before. It was almost deferential, while her own approach also contrasted strongly with the other three by its persistent inspirational tone. The effect of this is that she sounds more like a leader than any of them and for years we have been bleating that what we want in government is leadership. Now we have got it, are we so sure?

My impression is that the style of leadership she offers has a strangely antique ring. It has its model somewhere in the 1940s; it seems now – and exposure to it for a full hour reinforces the impression – very faintly out of tune. While she did not actually say that what we damned arts graduates needed was to get our feet on the ground, the words were there by implication.

David Wade

Last night's television

Love, letters and divorce

Brothers (Channel 4) is a new series trying desperately to bring a little gaiety to the facts of being "gay"; but, since American comedy is established upon the theory that minority groups must be understood rather than satirized, the episodes are forced to tread a very fine line.

As a result there are the passages of statutory seriousness devoted to the nature of "lifestyle", closely followed by a strident campery worthy of that wonderful clothing store owned by the Grace Brothers. Limp lines were succeeded by limp wrists, and it is purely a matter of taste which is the more objectionable.

This reviewer is prepared to watch heterosexual males grappling with the problems of bigotry but, on the other hand, he does not want to be bored to death in the process; he is also happy to watch homosexual males behaving like Mother Goose, but only if they promise to be funny rather than merely stereotypical.

Perhaps a spokesperson for one side or other will apear in the "Video Box" attached to Right to Reply (Channel 4), a receptacle which makes even the most inoffensive visage resemble a passport photograph come horrifying to life. This parade of monsters, however, is one of the reasons why the programme is consistently entertaining – the other being Gus MacDonald's acerbic manner with the producers and directors who bring so much rubbish to the attention of the public. *Points of View*, in contrast, is more boring than anything, it pretends to discuss. If one may borrow for a moment its characteristic style: please, please, please, dear Beeb, do *do* something about it!

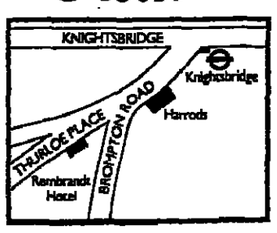
Voices in the Dark (Channel 4) opened with that terrible moment when a sleepless child listens to the arguments of her parents – listening, in other words, as her private world is destroyed by those who she loves. The subject of adultery and divorce is one that can be handled in a variety of ways, and there were times in this drama when the narrative seemed to freeze in horror at the prospect of being turned into a documentary or even a "discussion". But it survived, and even flourished. This was a restrained play, but all the more poignant as a result.

Peter Ackroyd



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No.	Company	Your gain or loss
	FOODS	
1	Watson & Philip	
2	Park Foods	
3	Unigate	
4	Dee	
5	Lees (John J)	
6	RHM	
7	Utd Biscuits	
8	Fisher (Albert)	
9	Argyll	
10	Avana	
	INDUSTRIALS L–R	
11	Low & Bonar	
12	Lep	
13	Metalrax	
14	Lilleshall	
15	Lloyd (FH)	
16	Macarthys Pharm	
17	MS Int	
18	Radiant Metal	
19	Laird	
20	LCP	
	ELECTRICALS	
21	Crystalate	
22	Apricot Computers	
23	Cray Elect	
24	Shorrock	
25	Stone Intl	
26	Pressac	
27	Int Signal & Control	
28	Dabilier	
29	Kode	
30	UEI	
	INDUSTRIALS S–Z	
31	Smith & Nephew	
32	Sycamore	
33	Vinten	
34	Wagon Ind	
35	Vosper	
36	Sterling Ind	
37	Tiphook	
38	Whitecroft	
39	Tex Hldgs	
40	Sidlaw	

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MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly Total

THE TIMES Portfolio

DAILY DIVIDEND £2,000 Claims required for +32 points

WEEKLY DIVIDEND £20,000 Claims required for +161 points

BUILDING AND ROADS

1985 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
240	172	Aberdeen Constr	224		10.5	4.7	14.0
260	224	Amec	225	● +1	15.7	7.0	8.9
80	29	Armitage	38		2.5	6.6	8.6
140	102	Bellway	112		5.7	5.1	10.3
388	288	BPB Industries	350	● +2	11.8	3.3	13.9
333	264	Baggeridge Brick	330		8.5	2.5	16.7
188	94	Barratt Dev	124		10.5	8.4	
151	113	Bellway(Bert) Constr	138		4.4	3.2	4.5
151	113	Bellway	138		10.0	7.2	14.4
78	60	Bentford Constrets	68		5.4	8.0	7.5
80	51	Brett Bros	71		4.4	6.2	10.6
595	545	Blockleys	595		32.5	5.7	12.8
808	488	Blue Circle	736	+5	28.8	5.0	7.8
248	194	Breedon&Cloud Hill	235		13.6	5.7	12.4
79	58	Brickhouse Dudley	73		4.8	6.6	12.4
80	55	Br Dredging	61		3.6	5.9	13.6
33	11	Brown&Jackson	15				10.3
62	42	Brownlee	43		4.4	8.0	9.3
92	84	Bryant	88		4.7	5.5	10.8
198	125	Burnett & Hallam			12.5		
165	145	Calvebrook Robey	150		4.4	3.0	25.0
70	42	Cement-Roadstone	65½		3.0	3.5	
70	42	Conder Grp	68		2.1	3.2	27.3
326	236	Costain	280		22.1	4.8	10.1
225	194	Countryside	210		8.0p		9.5
128	84	Crouch (Derek)	122	● +2	7.9	6.5	28.7
118	80	Dem (George)	104		5.1	7.8	8.2
81	45	Douglas (Fin)	73		2.5	3.5	13.3
71	45	Drake	64		4.2	4.7	12.5
113	85	Fed	85		4.2	7.2	7.9
92	54	Do A'	85				
98	53	Finlan Grp	86				
200	117	French Kier	286	● +12	8.9	3.7	13.9
88	64	Galliford	81		5.3	7.8	13.2
115	103	Gibbs & Dandy Ord	110		3.3	3.1	37.3
270	204	Gleeson (AJ)	264		7.7	2.9	9.1
119	89	HAT	119		5.4	5.5	18.3
84	24	Helical Bar	58	● -2			11.8
46	28	Hewden-Stuart	41		2.5	6.5	8.3
171	114	Heywood Williams	152		5.9	3.8	13.9
446	361	Higgs & Hill	436		18.3	4.2	11.8
180	139	Ibstock Johnsen	150		8.1	4.0	11.5
288	230	Jarvis (J) & Sons	288		25.0	8.4	11.4
208	159	Laing (J)	208		8.9	2.7	10.4
348	198	Do 'A'	348		8.9	2.6	10.2
99	67	Lawrence (Walter)	78		4.9	9.3	6.7
91	58	Lilley (FJC)	75		3.2	7.1	11.4
200	156	Lovell (YJ)	200		10.0	3.4	10.5
194	134	Magnet & South	138		9.7	4.9	14.3
182	161	Manders	184	● +2	10.5	5.8	9.8
110	80	Marshalls (Halifax)	110		7.1b	4.2	12.5
167	74	May & Hassell	160	+2	3.4	5.4	
238	232	McAlpine (Alfred)	318		19.1	6.2	10.3
185	112	Meyer Int	185		7.7	4.2	10.2
14		Miller (Stanley)	27		0.7	2.6	
134	105	Monk (A)	109		8.3	8.6	14.7
348	196	Mowlem (John)	333	● +2	19.8	6.1	21.6
220	180	Newarthill	200		15.7	7.9	10.1
185	143	Nottingham Brick	165		9.3	5.8	12.0
800	800	Pearce (Chi) Sons	700		11.1	1.6	13.1
135	93	Persimmon	132		6.2	5.7	8.7
116	88	Phoenix Timber	99		4.3p	4.4	3.7
230	180	Pochins	270	● +5	18.4	6.8	10.5
366	242	RMC	468	● +2	16.9	4.0	10.5
296	205	Redland	336	● +1	15.5	4.6	11.2
177	148	Roberts Adard	155		8.5	5.4	13.3
177	145	Ruberoid	183		11.1	6.0	9.9
150	118	Rugby Cement	137		8.0	5.8	10.1
262	208	Scott	248	-14	14.3b	5.8	8.5
97	62	Sharpe & Fisher	94		3.2	3.4	14.7
353	327	Smart (J)	71		6.2	8.7	15.0
408	327	Tarmac	378		21.7	5.7	13.0
348	288	Taylor Woodrow	348		21.4	4.5	13.0
148	108	Tilbury Group	146		7.0	4.8	12.6
340	255	Travis & Arnold	324		11.3p	3.4	11.9
97	77	Trimo	85		1.5	1.7	18.8
143	103	Turriff	155	+3	10.0	6.5	22.8
135	106	Vibroplant	128	+3	12.9	6.8	8.2
128	108	Ward	128	+1	9.6	7.5	7.8
58	38	Warrington (T)	58		3.7p	6.4	9.4
173	130	Watts Blake	178	● +2	8.0	3.4	14.3
78	62	Watson Bros	64		1.4e	2.2	12.8
218	218	Wiggins	45				
172	124	Wilson (Connolly)	324	● +6	4.5	1.4	15.9
141	97	Wimpey (George)	118	●	4.6	3.9	11.2

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

1985 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
34½	23½	AKZO N/V Bearer	32½		40t	11.6	
200	151	Allied Colloids	151	● +1	6.5	4.3	15.9
373	273	Amersham	336	● +5	8.5	2.1	13.9
280	190	Anchor Chemical	190	● +5	6.1	3.2	7.0
75	51½	Bayer DM50	67½		10.3	3.2	
180	112	Bibby(J)	112		10.0	8.9	8.4
134	104	Brent Chems	115		5.1	4.4	15.2
57	9½	Br Bennol	10				57.8
117	78	Br Tar Products	107		5.7p	5.3	10.5
275	224	Coalite	264		9.5	3.6	12.7
188	131	Combe Stos	146		8.6	5.9	8.6
118	113	Do 'A'	116		8.6	7.4	6.9
15½		Corry (Horace)	9½		0.7	4.6	15.2
138		Croda	138		10.6	7.8	13.5
168	82	Do Dfd	168				14.4
158	145	Ellis & Everard	158		8.4	5.9	25.0
208	175	Fosseo-Minsep	211		11.9	5.7	8.3
127	65	Halstead (James)	127	+10	5.7	4.5	8.8
488	318	Hickson	488		21.4	4.4	7.8
51	30	Hickson DM50	50½				
230	180	Ind Chem Ind	230	-9	44.3	6.1	7.2
328	241	Laporte	328		10.5	3.2	17.5
121	94	Perry	121		4.7	4.8	16.1
185	141	Pilkington	185		3.3	1.8	18.9
74	50	Rexbrook Hldgs	74		3.0	4.1	15.2
128	128	Rexnord	128		3.2	2.5	16.6
214	94	SAAL BPD	214	+6			
182	162	Wolverhampton Rok	213		11.1	5.2	9.9
98	56	Yorkshire Chem	74		2.5e	3.4	12.3

CINEMAS AND TV

1985 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
183	120	Anglia TV 'A'	183		11.4	6.2	13.1
84	26	Grampian	35		2.4	7.5	8.8
176	116	HTV N/V	176		11.0	6.3	8.8
216	216	LWT Hldgs	285		20.6	7.2	10.4
155	110	Scot TV 'A'	150		12.7	8.5	7.5
52	32	TVS N/V	152		8.5	5.6	8.5
		TSW	37		2.4	7.8	8.5

DRAPERY AND STORES

1985 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
220	150	Aquascutum 'A'	220		10.5	4.7	9.6
93	61	Beattie (James) 'A'	93		3.1	3.3	13.5
151	93	Bentalls	151				9.7
57	36	BF Home Stores	57		1.4	2.5	22.8
92	67	Brown (N)	92		3.5	3.8	8.5
57	36	Burton	57		2.6	4.6	8.5
111	84	Clark (A) &Sons	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Clinton's 'A'	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
224	36	Cleland (S)	36				
224	36	Church	36				
195	130	Combined English	195		8.7	4.5	16.1
98	67	Courts (Furns) 'A'	98		4.7	4.8	15.6
92	67	Dewhirst (JJ)	92		4.7	5.1	8.1
93	67	Dickins Grp	93		4.7	5.1	8.1
111	84	Do 'A'	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Ellis & Goldstein	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Elys (Wimbledon)	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Empire Stores	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Etam	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Executive Clothes	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Fine Art Dev	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Ford (Martin)	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Formfitter	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Freemans	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Gallery (AJ)	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Glass SA	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Goldberg (A)	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Goldsmiths Grp	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Grattan	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	GUS	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Do A'	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Habitat Mothercare	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Harris Queensway	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Hepworth (J)	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Hollas	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Horne Charm	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	House Of Lerose	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Jones (Ernest)	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Lewis Price	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Lex Cooper	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Liberty	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Lincoln Kilgour	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Marks & Spencer	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Marples (John)	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Mdsts Leisure	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Moss Bros	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	N&S Newsagents	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Owen (G)	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Car Price	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Owen Owen	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Peters Somers	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Priestly (Alfred)	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Ratners (Jewellers)	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Raybeck	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Reg Scot	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Reiss (Austin)	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Do 'A'	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	S & U Stores	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Sarpaul (H)	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Do 'A'	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Sears	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Simpson (S) 'A'	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Smith (WH) 'A'	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Do 'B'	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Stanley (AG)	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Sterlcrest	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Sumner Clothes	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Superdrug Stores	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Tern-Consulate	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Time Products	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Vantona Viyella	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	WW Group	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Ward White	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Wigfalls	111		4.5	4.1	9.2
111	84	Wolworth	111		4.5	4.1	9.2

ELECTRICALS

1985 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
185	175	AB Elect	185	● -5	11.4	6.2	13.8
188	93	Amstrad	188		1.3	0.7	14.5
75	28	Apricot Computers	75	● -2	2.1	2.8	6.3
28	28	Arlen					
98	68	Atlantic Comp	98	+15	2.4	1.2	11.4
53	53	Audio Fidelity	53				
238	238	BICC	238	●	11.9	5.0	10.5
145	80	BSR	80	-2	15.1	24b	4.8

FINANCE AND LAND

1985 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
334	210	Abingworth	328		1.8	0.5	
193	128	Ackroyd Harris	174	● +3	3.5	2.0	7.3
300	228	Aberdeenprop	280		23.0	8.7	4.8
151	70	Barkley Tech	108				
29½	17½	Camellia	21½		16.7	0.8	
218	158	Candover	218		2.5	1.4	62.5
38	10	Centromay	11				
29½	16½	Equity & Gen	16		1.3	7.2	8.1
212	130	Hambro	170	● +1	16.0	5.2	27.7
173	91	Henry & Sims	170	●	8.9	5.5	22.1
47	37	Hogarth	154				
46½	38	Ind Homes Loans	38		800	21.1	
		Do B'n	238				

Financial trusts, page 22

FOODS

1985 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
165	130	ASDA-MFI	144	-2	3.8	2.7	16.4
37	16	Alpine Drinks	23		2.6	11.2	
345	253	Ansyd	333	● +2	9.7	3.0	16.7
252	189	Arlo Food	252		9.3	3.7	12.4
168	115	Assoc Fisheries	115		3.9	3.4	17.1
579	559	Avana	579		34.3	5.9	17.9
268	185	Banks (Sidney G)	240		14.3	5.9	7.1
208	133	Bass (AG)	208		13.3	6.4	9.2
128	85½	Bassets Foods	128		5.7	4.5	22.8
168	98	Bellays	168		5.0	2.9	12.2
174	98	Bibby	174		9.0	5.2	12.5
131	131	Blakemd Conf	131		5.7	4.4	15.2
74	37	Br Vending (BV)	74		1.7	2.3	12.5
177	131	Cadbury-Schweppp	177		8.5	4.8	12.7
150	130	Cerra Milling	150		8.6	5.7	8.9
170	130	Clifferds Dairies	150		9.5	6.3	12.9
185	115	Do 'A'	185		9.5	5.1	11.1
315	115	Cotsens	315				
138	94	Dee	138		5.7	4.1	25.6
232	183	Fisher (Albert)	232		9.5	4.1	18.5
232	183	Fitch Lovell	232		9.5	4.1	18.5
232	183	Glass Glover	232		9.5	4.1	18.5
348	348	Hazlewood Foods	348		14.3	4.1	18.5
75	75	Herts	75				
360	360	Hillsdown Hldgs	360				
75	75	Hovis Farm	75				
360	360	Iceland Frozen	360				
75	75	Int Leisure Hldg	75				
75	75	Lees (John J)	75				
75	75	Lovell (Chr)	75				
75	75	Mattessons (Bernard)	75				
75	75	Meat Trade Supp	91				
75	75	Morrison (W)	75				
75	75	Newsdiers	75				
75	75	Nichols (Jas) (Vimto)	75				
75	75	Normens	75				
75	75	Robin Foods	75				
75	75	Sandon & Peacock	75				
75	75	Park Foods	75				
75	75	RHM	75				
75	75	Ransomes Mac	75				
75	75	Sainsbury (J)	75				
75	75	Salveson (Chas)	75				
75	75	Scott & Lyle	75				
75	75	Tesco	75				
75	75	Unigate	75				
75	75	Utd Biscuits	75				
75	75	Wason & Philo	75				

HOTELS AND CATERERS

1985 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
458	375	Grand Met	458	● +5	14.3	3.8	11.3
240	188	Kennedy Brookes	235		1.7	0.9	12.1
465	348	Ladbroke	465	● -3	11.0p	2.7	11.4
112	85	Lon Pick Hotels	85		11.0p	2.5	8.1
77	77	Mount Charlotte	77		1.8	2.3	13.2
4.6	3.5	Prince Of W Hotels	3.5		2.1	2.5	15.3
388	388	Queens Moat	388		2.2p	3.4	17.9
388	388	Savoy Hotels 'A'	378		13.8	3.6	10.4
189	119	Stakis	158	-1	7.7	2.8	14.5
		Trusthouse Forte			7.0	4.4	23.3

INDUSTRIALS A–D

1985 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
185	118	AAH	185		6.7	3.6	13.8
218	218	ABM Research	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	ADH	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	APV	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Aaronson	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Abrasive	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Alexandra W'wear	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Amber Ind	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Angleterre	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Anmoor	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Ash & Lacey	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Ashley	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Ass Br Eng 'A'	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Assoc Heat	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Aurora	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Avon Rubber	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Ayrshire Metal	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	BBA	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	BET Dfd	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	BETEC	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	BIC	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Babcock	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Bailey (CH)	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Baird (Wm)	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Baker Perkins	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Banro Ind	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Barlow	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Barlow Rand	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Barrow Hepburn	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Barton Transport	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Bayree (Charles)	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Beaton Clarke	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Beautford	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Beckwood	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Bevan (SW)	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Bibby (J)	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Bickle	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Bilam (J)	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Birfield Ch Cutlcast	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Birmingham Mint	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Black Arrow	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Black (Peter)	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Blackwood Hodge	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Blundell-Perm	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Bodycote	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Booker McConnell	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Brooks	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Boulton (Wm)	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Bowater	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Bowater Ins	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Brabyns Gp	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Brammer	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Brassway	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Brengreen	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Bridgend Gp	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Bridon	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Bridport-Gundry	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Bridg & Eng Appl	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Britmet	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Br Syphon	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Br Vita	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Brokes Hill	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Bromsgrove Inds	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Brown Eng	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Brook St Bureau	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Brooke Tool	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Brown & Tawse	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Brown (John)	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Brunton (Alex)	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Bullough	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Bungalow	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Burns-Anderson	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Cambrd Eng	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Capper Ind	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Capro Ind	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Cardo Eng	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Arlen	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Atlantic Comp	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	Audio Fidelity	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	BICC	218		8.7	4.0	11.4
218	218	BSR	218		8.7	4.0	11.4

E–K

1985 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
72	48	Chamberlin & Hill	58		5.0	8.6	8.3
208	168	Charter Cons	208		15.7	7.7	48.5
508	485	Chemring	508	+10	18.3	3.5	12.8
355	208	Chelsfield Int	275		7.8	2.8	14.3
42	31	Christy Hunt	41				11.6
148	128	Clarke (Clement)	128		6.1	4

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THE TIMES

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Exco signs uneasy pact with Tan Sri Khoo

The City's two leading money and foreign exchange broking groups, Exco International and Mercantile House Holdings, beat the pre-Christmas scramble yesterday to unveil deals with far-reaching implications for themselves and, conceivably, the markets in which they operate. Both also raise difficult questions about the *long-term* future of these companies.

Exco has reached a pact with Tan Sri Khoo Teck Puat, the Singaporean financier who has 25.5 per cent of its shares, after several weeks of intensive negotiations. He is to become deputy chairman and two of his nominees will also go on the board. One of these nominees will join the powerful executive committee of the board.

In return, Tan Sri Khoo has agreed not to take his stake above 29.9 per cent, nor sell any Exco shares, "otherwise than in certain circumstances". Those circumstances include the passing of a Stock Exchange Class One resolution approving the sale or purchase of a significant part of Exco, or a third party buying more than 10 per cent of the shares, or on a takeover bid.

Tan Sri Khoo has undertaken not to form a concert party with potential bidders, but clearly much rests on mutual goodwill and the ability to strike up a fruitful relationship with the existing Exco management.

Exco shares fell 23p to 204p on the news, reflecting the temporary removal of bid hopes and the fear that boardroom relations may be somewhat strained well into 1986.

Mercantile shares also fell, 5p to 299p, but probably more on profit-taking than anything else. The company spelled out the terms of its sale of 82 per cent of Oppenheimer & Co and Oppenheimer Capital Corporation of New York to a management buyout team for $150 million (£106 million).

This compares with the £91 million that Mercantile paid for the Oppenheimer group three years ago, and that included the highly profitable fund management side which Mercantile is retaining. Two-thirds of the money is being paid in cash and the rest in junior subordinated debt and redeemable preferred stock in the acquiring company.

Mercantile's relationship with Opco and Opcap has been less than happy. They are respectively in brokerage and corporate finance, where earnings have been volatile and the executives have sometimes chafed under their London yoke.

Mercantile can comfortably make better use of the money, not least by putting more beef behind its London securities operation ahead of the big bang. John Barkshire, the group's energetic chairman, is also talking of going into mortgages and communications – the latter an area that Exco has vacated only this year with the sale of Telerate.

In the coming months both Exco and Mercantile must give their followers clear indications of where the future lies for their corporate development, or they will run the risk of having those questions answered for them through the mechanism of the market. Time is not on their side.

Metal exchange boxes clever

The London Metal Exchange has found a crafty way out of an unenviable dilemma by setting the end of January as the point beyond which tin trading can no longer be suspended. To restart trading without agreement with the International Tin Council would risk a price crash that could drive some LME members to the wall. But allowing the market to remain emasculated indefinitely could inflict lasting damage on the exchange as a whole.

The refinement to the new strategy is that January 13 has been nominated as the day on which the LME will review the situation. It is a shrewd move. Leaving the ITC more than a month's breathing space would have been an error, if that laborious body's recent performance is a guide. Fixing a target date before which the LME can review progress puts the pressure firmly back on the ITC, where it belongs.

The change of tactics by the LME has been made possible by two developments. The first is the tacit acknowledgement by the exchange that its members can hold out financially for that long, despite a 50 per cent fall in trading volume. We hear less wild talk now about the imminent demise of the LME.

But the second, more fundamental, change is that most members of the ITC agree that a solution must be found that is based on a reasonable sharing of their liabilities. France and Germany have so far been unforgivably obstructive, but that does not diminish the force of this general recognition. Producing members of the agreement in particular have somewhat belatedly realized the implications for them of a crash which could take the price of tin down to levels at which most would be mining unprofitably.

Will the ITC seize the opportunity? Even with good will the council's position is difficult. Its dissenting members control enough votes to block the necessary two thirds majority for full council decisions; banks and brokers are likely to be wary of an agreement which excludes two of the biggest consumers and may therefore be challenged; and there is the danger that such urgency as exists will fade rather than intensify as the wretched crisis drags on.

But at least members of the ITC are still talking. Sensible and negotiable proposals from banks and brokers are on the table, and, perhaps, with a helping shove from renewed diplomacy, the talking can be turned into hard proposals. The process has been encouraged by indications that on realistic guesses about the eventual tin price, the council's losses could be less than £200 million – hardly an intolerable burden for 22 countries. It is therefore all the more extraordinary that we still face the possibility of the ITC failing to accept an orderly resumption of tin trading and defaulting on all £900 million of its debts. At least we now have a deadline.

BET shaken but not stirred

The industrial services group BET was clearly shaken by yesterday's decision to refer its takeover bid for SGB, the scaffolding business, to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

But given the length of time it has taken the Office of Fair Trading to reach a decision – coming on the second closing date for the bid – BET should not have been that surprised. The prospects of concentration of interests within the scaffolding industry arising out of such a get-together was clearly considered worthy of more prolonged investigation.

The referral effectively puts BET's £117 million bid on ice for the six months which the commission is allowed to draw up its report. But BET greeted the decision with a somewhat unusual ploy – expressing its continued interest in SGB and its determination to see the investigation through.

This effectively provided a platform for the SGB share price, which might otherwise have dipped more sharply than the 16p to 246p.

Other bidders might have secured malicious pleasure in seeing the shares of their target nosedive in such circumstances, but BET is clearly anxious not to see SGB sink to a level where other predators might be tempted to move in.

BET stressed that it is not giving an unconditional notice of renewing its bid if allowed; simply its wish to keep its options open. But the signal reaching the stock market is that SGB will remain high on BET's shopping list unless the Commission says no. Perhaps it does have attractions which others might have overlooked.

RTZ to swap Enterprise stake for 25% of Lasmo

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

Rio Tinto-Zinc (RTZ), which was prevented by the Government from taking control of Enterprise Oil when it was floated last summer, is to sell its 29.9 per cent holding in the company to London & Scottish Marine Oil (Lasmo).

The deal, worth £93 million at current share prices, involves Lasmo paying RTZ in shares amounting to 25.2 per cent of Lasmo.

RTZ has agreed that it will not take its stake the company above 29.9 per cent, the level above which it would have to announce a full bid, until 1988.

The deal, due to be completed at an extraordinary meeting of Lasmo on January 6, will make Lasmo virtually takeover-proof for two years.

However, at least one analyst has suggested that the deal will flush out a bidder for Lasmo by January 6 it has even been suggested that Enterprise Oil could emerge as a possible suitor.

Lasmo and RTZ have been discussing the matter for two months, but is it is understood that the £145 million bid this week by the Belgian oil group Petrofina for the independent Charterhouse Petroleum may have led to the deal being pushed through.

Other European oil groups such as Elf of France, Agip of Italy, and Deminex of Germany have been looking at takeover possibilities in Britain for several months.

Lasmo is the right size to attract their attention and the Petrofina-Charterhouse deal may have whetted their corporate appetites.

RTZ's expansionist ambitions in the oil sector were thwarted when the Government refused to allow it to take a 49 per cent stake in Enterprise Oil after much of the city turned its back on the company formed from the former British Gas Corporation oil assets. But those ambitions may yet be satisfied by a full takeover of Lasmo in two years.



Chris Greentree: welcome chance to broaden equity base

A full bid for Lasmo by RTZ could be followed by a full bid for Enterprise Oil on Lasmo, satisfying RTZ's ambition to take over Enterprise Oil without falling foul of Government restrictions on the size of RTZ's Enterprise share holding.

Suc a move would also be possible when the Government relinquishes its "golden share" in Enterprise Oil at the end of 1988.

RTZ said yesterday: "RTZ considers that the exchange in shares will add an international dimension to its oil and gas interests. It is a further positive step in the progressive development of RTZ's cergy business."

Lasmo's chief executive, Mr Chris Greentree, said: "Lasmo, in turn, welcomes the opportunity to broaden substantially its equity base and to finance this important investment without depletion of its existing cash resources."

Lasmo has extensive production in Indonesia, West Africa and the North Sea as well as large acreage in North and South America and offshore Italy.

City doubts that SRO system will work

By Lawrence Lever

The Financial Services Bill received a mixed reception from the City and professional bodies yesterday as those subject to its self-regulatory regime considered its implications in detail.

Professional bodies thought the Bill's "recognition" rules too onerous, while City criticism focused on the unworkablity of the system of self-regulatory organizations (SROs).

Mr David Hopkinson, managing director of the M & G Group, said the costs of the SROs "run into tens of millions and the Government should pay part".

Mr Gordon Pepper, senior partner of W. Greenwell, the broker, attacked the "very untidy" SRO system. He said: "In some areas, such as fund managment there are four possible governing SROs, while elsewhere there may be gaps between them. I would much rather have seen various activities defined and have had a SRO for Each."

He also questioned the competence of the SROs to regulate investment activities. None had any practical experience of policing regulations.

Professional bodies, such as the Law Society, The Institute of Chartered Accountants, and Chartered Institute of Certified Accountants, gave the Bill an overall welcome, subject to concern over the recognition requirements.

These provide that the designated agency has powers to recognize a professional body; a member of such a body would not require separate authorization provided his investment activities were incidental to his professional practice.

However, the rules of a recognized professional body would have to conform to various rules laid down in the designated agency's rule book

Mr Peter Hobkinson, president of the Chartered Association of Certified Accountants described the conditions involved in seeking recognition as "over-elaborate".

He said: "recognition may be inappropriate for a body where only a minority of members give investment advice and then only as a small part of their overall business."

Similar views were expressed by Mr Brian Jenkins, president of the Institute of Chartered Accountants. "For a very small part of our business we will be subject to a very broad set of rules," he said.

£259m November surplus on target

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

Britain had a current account surplus of £259 million last month. The cumulative surplus for the first 11 months of the year was £2.85 million, in line with Treasury forecasts of a £3 billion surplus for the year.

When later information becomes available, particularly on invisible trade, the surplus is likely to have been even larger.

Visible trade last month was in deficit by £141 million, a deterioration on the exact balance achieved in October but better than the monthly average so far in 1985.

Exports declined by £18 million overall, although manufactured exports rose by £60 million, on a balance of payments basis. Imports rose by £123 million.

The oil surplus of £675 million was £85 million down on October. Oil exports fell by £82 million, as sales were diverted to the home market. Imports edged up by £3 million.

The surplus on invisible trade was estimated at £400 million. In the first 11 months of the year, the invisibles surplus is estimated to be £5.04 billion, the oil surplus £7.6 billion, and the deficit on non-oil trade £9.78 billion.

The underlying trend for exports is flat, while imports continue to rise steadily.

Third-quarter dip in GDP

Gross domestic product declined slightly in the third quarter, slipping by 0.3 per cent. Compared with a year earlier, it was up by 3.3 per cent or 2 per cent after allowing for the effect of the miners' strike.

The figures, based on the average of the output, income and expenditure measures of GDP, suggest that the economy has flattened out since the spring.

The output estimate of GDP is regarded as the most accurate of the three measures, for short-term comparisons. In the third quarter, this rose by 0.3 per cent, while the income and expenditure measures both fell.

Output GDP in the third quarter was 3.6 per cent higher than a year earlier.

Real incomes, measured across the whole economy, rose by 0.7 per cent in the third quarter, and were 3.8 per cent higher than a year earlier.

Rate of US growth quickens

From Bailey Morris
Washington

The US economy ended the year better than it began, growing at a moderate pace of 3.2 per cent in the final quarter but for the year as a whole growth was estimated at a disappointing 2.4 per cent, the Commerce Department said yesterday.

Inflation, as measured by the consumer price index, picked up sharply last month, growing by 0.6 per cent, the biggest rise since January 1984. Increases in food and energy prices were the main reasons. For the first 11 months of the year, inflation rose at an annual rate of 3.6 per cent.

Growth in the October-December quarter was more rapid than had been expected by many private economists but not enough to produce the 3 per cent annual growth rate the Reagan Administration had predicted.

The estimates are still preliminary, however, based on the Government's "flash" forecast of gross national product

They point to a marked slowing of the US economy this year, after soaring growth of 6.6 per cent in 1984.

IN BRIEF

Receiver at St Piran

A High Court judge yesterday appointed a receiver to St Piran and Gasco Investments UK, controlled by the controversial financier Mr Jim Raper.

Sir Nicholas Browne-Wilkinson, the Vice-Chancellor, said it was "an extreme step" because neither Mr Raper nor the companies had yet dealt with allegations of "the utmost seriousness" concerning the sale of Westminster Property Group.

The judge said the present evidence indicated a consistent course of dealing by Mr Raper and his companies designed to defraud creditors and minority shareholders and breach undertakings given to the court.

BHP soars 61%

Australia's largest company, Broken Hill Proprietary said that its profits leapt 61 per cent to A$574 million (£406 million) in the six months to the end of November, on sales of more than A$4.4 billion.

Williams offer

Williams Holdings, the Monmouth engineering company, has launched a recommended offer for Spencer Clark Metal Industries. The cash offer is worth 140p a share, valuing the whole company at £7.3 million. Tempus, page 22

The broker, Hoare Govett (Far East), has been granted a Japanese securities licence and Schroder Securities (Japan) permission to open a branch in Tokyo.

Belgian rise

Pressure within the European Monetary System forced Belgium's national bank to raise its bank rate from 8.75 to 9.75 per cent yesterday. The Belgian authorities said that a realignment of the Belgian franc in the EMS was not imminent, and that the currency was stable.

Bid go-ahead

The £115 million takeover bid by C. H. Beazer, the Bath building group, for French Kier is free to go ahead and will not be examined by the Monopolies Commission.

GDP slows

Hong Kong's gross domestic product will grow by less than 4 per cent this year instead of the 4.5 per cent estimated earlier, according to the Crown colony's financial secretary, Sir John Bremridge.

Steel plant to shed 460 jobs

From Edward Townsend
Industrial Correspondent

The British Steel Corporation is to shed 460 jobs at a Lanarkshire steel and tubes plant, dealing another blow to the steel industry in Scotland.

Yesterday's annoucement came a day after Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland, finally ruled out government intervention to save jobs at the Gartcosh rolling mill in Strathclyde and is bound to cause another round of protest.

According to the BSC, the latest job cuts – at the Airdrie-based Clydesdale and Imperial works, – were necessary because "significant losses" in the steel and tubes division made it vital that a big reduction in production costs be achieved quickly.

Mr Donald Dewar, the shadow Scottish secretary, said in the Commons that there appeared to be "bad news pressing in on every side" for he Scottish steel industry.

But Mr Younger, who has said that the Gartcosh closure would have no bearing on the future of the big integrated Ravenscraig steelworks, said that the Airdrie cuts also had no relation to the future of the other two works.

Mining group agrees deal with banks

Burnett & Hallamshire, the troubled coal mining and property group, yesterday announced details of the long-awaited financial reconstruction it has been negotiating with its 17 banks.

The group also revealed the full extent of its financial difficulties. Its accounts for the year to March 31 showed that rationalization costs and write-offs of £116 million resulted in a deficit on net assets of £4.2 million. Borrowings soared to £195 million.

Mr Thomas Carlile, Burnett's newly appointed chairman, said the group would not survive without a strengthening of the balance sheet through the reduction of debt

Burnett's bankers have agreed to eliminate £63 million of the group's borrowings by converting debt into equity. Existing shareholders will be given the right to subscribe for up to £30 million of this new equity at 25p a share.

Existing shareholders will have their interest in the company diluted to 24 per cent if they do not take up any of the new shares.

MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

FT Ind Ord	1108.6 (−6.3)
FT All Share	670.98 (−1.88)
FT Govt Securities	82.85 (n/c)
FT-SE 100	1386.5 (−4.2)
Pargains	22,845
Datastream USM	104.28(−0.43)
New York	
Dow Jones	1553.20 (+9.29)
Tokyo	
Nikkei Dow	13011.09 (−103.94)
Hong Kong:	
Hang Seng	1720.16 (−5.89)
Amsterdam:	250.8 (+3.7)
Sydney: AO	986.5 (−0.4)
Frankfurt:	
Commerzbank	1871.1 (+35.2)
Brussels:	
General	895.77 (+17.31)
Paris: CAC	252.4 (+1.4)
Zurich:	
SKA General	487.20 (n/c)

GOLD

London fixing:
am $323.55pm−$325.55
close $325.75−326.25 −(£228.75−229.25)
New York:
Comex (Latest) $326.25

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISES:

Jebsens Drill	21p +8p
Dunton Group	22p +2.50p
Barr & Wall Arn A	140p +15p
Richards	41p +4p
Fobel Int	31p +3p
Sycamore Hldgs	11p +1p
Micro Bus Sys	67p +6p
D.J. Sec Alarm	83p +7p
Cannon St Inv	85p +7p
James Halstead	127p +10p
British Benzol	51½p +3.5p
Stormguard	20p +1.50p
WA Holdings	40p +3p
Atlantic Comps	205p +15p
S. R. Gent	70p+5p
Unigroup	93p+6p
Lasmo	245p +15p
Wayne Kerr	83p +5p
Barr & Wall Arn	177p +10p
MS Int	72p +4p
Petranol	90p +5p
East Rand Cons	38p +2p
Norton Opax	130p +7p
Case	131p +7p

FALLS:

Charles Baynes	25p−4p
Prestwick	39p−6p
Exco Int	202p−25p

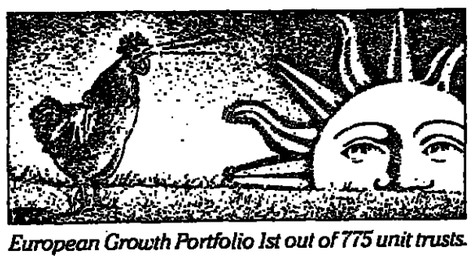
CURRENCIES

London:
£: $1.4247 (+0.0025)
£: DM 3.5843 (+0.0043)
£: SwFr 3.0120(+0.0029)
£: FFr 11.0027(+0.0191)
£: Yen 288.94(+0.37)
£ Index: 78.10
New York:
£: $1.4245
$: DM 2.5162
$ Index: 127.4(+0.1)
ECU £0.610638
SDR £0.764907

INTEREST RATES

London:
Bank Base: 11½%
3-month interbank 11⅞−11 7/16%
3-month eligible bills:
buying rate 11⅜−11⅛
US:
Prime Rate 9.50%
Federal Funds 7⅛%
3-month Treasury Bills 7.05−7.03%
30-year bond price 105 8/32−105 9/32

Why our having the top performing unit trust is not enough.



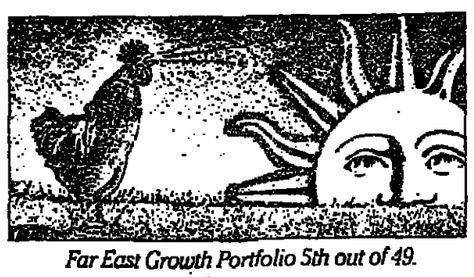
European Growth Portfolio 1st out of 775 unit trusts.



Japan Growth Portfolio 1st out of 46.



U.K. Growth Portfolio 2nd out of 116.



Far East Growth Portfolio 5th out of 49.

Most fund managers would love to be able to crow about a success like the Sun Life European Growth Portfolio.

(After all, in the six months since its launch, it has consistently outperformed all 774 other unit trusts with a growth of 47.6% offer to offer.)

So, why aren't we content to do the same?

The short answer is that at Sun Life we're not interested in creating a one-off wonder.

We believe that the unit trust investor needs and deserves consistently good performance. No matter which fund he or his advisor selects.

That performance can only be delivered by a dedicated and talented management team.

The kind of team who've produced outstanding results not only in Europe but right across the Professional Series of Portfolios. As our roosters on the left will tell you.

Since the same team are responsible for Sun Life's Managed Trusts, it's hardly surprising that they've enjoyed similar success. For example, since its June launch, our Managed Growth Trust ranks third out of 98 unit trusts in the International sector.

You'll find the expert analysis which lies behind these achievements in our quarterly investment review, 'The Strategist'. The latest issue deals with prospects in Europe. For a copy and more information about our unit trusts, please clip the coupon.

To: Sun Life Trust Management Ltd., 107 Cheapside, London EC2V 6DU.
Please send me 'The Strategist' and more information on your unit trusts.

Name

Address

T21.12

All statistics: 'Planned Savings' to 1.12.85.

SUN LIFE Trust Management

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Currencies fluctuated within narrow bands in extremely quiet trading. Many banks had already squared their positions for the year-end.

Others were content to await some US economic figures. The estimated growth of 3.2 per cent in the US for the October to December quarter was in line with market predictions, although the downward revision in the third quarter growth figure from 4.3 per cent to 3 per cent surprised a few people.

The figures made little or no difference to dollar exchange rates, though.

Sterling eased about a quarter of a cent at one time, but closed a quarter of a cent firmer at $1.4247.

The pound also recovered a small early fall on the Continent, eventually rising from DM3.5800 to DM3.5843 after about DM3.5725.

The effective exchange rate index ended 0.2 up at 78.1.

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

	Market rates day's range Date December 20	Market rates close Date December 20	1 month	3 months
New York	$1.4205-1.4255	$1.4240-1.4255	0.43-0.40 c prem	1.31-1.27 c prem
Montreal	$1.9830-1.9922	$1.9872-1.9914	0.38-0.30 c prem	1.27-1.13 c prem
Amsterdam	4.0214-4.0498fl	4.0385-4.0498fl	2⅝-1⅝ c prem	8-6½ c prem
Brussels	72.94-73.36fl	73.17-73.36fl	15-2 c prem	43-24 c prem
Copenhagen	12.9755-13.0438k	13.0154-13.0433k	4-2⅜ ore prem	10½-9⅛ ore prem
Dublin	1.1638-1.1710p	1.1696-1.1706p	10p prem-13 p disc	16p prem-17 p disc
Frankfurt	3.5696-3.5880m	3.5806-3.5880m	2⅜-1⅞ pf prem	6¼-5¾ pf prem
Lisbon	226.65-230.57e	227.48-230.57e	250-685 e disc	500-1385 e disc
Madrid	222.25-223.80p	223.00-223.80p	10-80 p disc	150-230 p disc
Milan	2436.40-2454.00lr	2447.14-2454.00lr	8-16 lr disc	22-33 lr disc
Oslo	10.9165-10.9764k	10.9506-10.9764k	par-1½ ore disc	¾-3¼ ore disc
Paris	10.9456-11.0227fl	10.9826-11.0227fl	¼-2⅛ c disc	3⅛-7⅞ c disc
Stockholm	10.9384-10.9906k	10.9648-10.9906k	1-2 ore disc	1¾-2⅝ ore disc
Tokyo	287.04-290.50y	288.64-289.23y	1¼-¾ y prem	3½-2⅝ y prem
Vienna	25.08-25.23sch	25.17-25.38sch	6¾-8¼ gro prem	32½-28 gro prem
Zurich	3.0014-3.0171f	3.0068-3.0171f	2-1¾ c prem	5¾-5¼ c prem

Sterling index compared with 1975 was up 0.2 at 78.1 (day's range 77.9-78.1).

OTHER STERLING RATES

Argentina austral	1.1396–1.1423
Australia dollar	2.0833–2.0880
Bahrain dinar	0.5340–0.5380
Brazil cruzeiro	14401.00–14488.00
Cyprus pound	0.7680–0.7780
Finland marka	7.7990–7.8390
Greece drachma	213.10–215.10
Hong Kong dollar	11.1140–11.1250
India rupee	17.25–17.45
Kuwait dinar (KD)	0.4115–0.4155
Malaysia dollar	3.4603–3.4656
Mexico peso	615.0–665.0
New Zealand dollar	2.8594–2.8788
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.1740–5.2140
Singapore dollar	3.0187–3.0282
South Africa rand	3.7973–3.8307
United Arab Emirates dirham	5.2050–5.2450

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Ireland	1.2185-1.2210
Singapore	2.1185-2.1215
Malaysia	2.4300-2.4320
Australia	0.6825-0.6835
Canada	1.3950-1.3960
Sweden	7.7100-7.7200
Norway	7.8960-7.7050
Denmark	8.1400-8.1500
West Germany	2.1080-2.1110
Switzerland	2.1100-2.1120
Netherlands	2.8230-2.8340
France	7.7150-7.7200
Japan	202.55-202.77
Italy	1717.0-1720.0
Belgium(Comm)	51.40-51.50
Hong Kong	7.8050-7.8070
Portugal	160.0-161.0
Spain	156.75-156.85
Austria	17.64-17.68

Rates supplied by Barclays Bank HOFEX and Extel. *Lloyds Bank International.

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

Cheap day-to-day money helped bring the short dates easier, but *the periods overall were not* active yesterday.

Most operators are not expected to shift their positions significantly before the year-end.

Rates showed no significant change; just easing a little on the "ones" with the pull from comfortable nearby money.

Day-to-day money held the opening level of 11 ½-⅞ per cent only briefly, soon dropping to 1-10 ¼ per cent.

By the end of the morning it had declined and opened out to 10 ½-10 per cent, slipping further to 9 ¼-9 per cent during lunchtime. It registered 10-8 per cent shortly before the close, but the final minutes saw 11-9 per cent in a thin finish.

Local authorities dabbled lightly in notice money.

Base Rates %
Clearing Banks 11½
Finance House 12

Discount Market Loans%
Overnight: High 11¼ Low 7
Week fixed: 11¼

Treasury Bills (Discount %)
Buying Selling
2 months 11¼ 2 months 11⅜
3 months 11⅛ 3 months 11⅛

Prime Bank Bills (Discount %)
1 month 11⅜-11⅛ 2 months 11⅛-11⅜
3 months 11⅛-11⅛ 6 months 11⅛-11⅛

Trade Bills (Discount %)
1 month 11⅝ 2 months 11⅝
3 months 11⅛ 6 months 11⅝

Interbank (%)
Overnight: open 11⅛-10⅝, close 11-9
1 week 11⅛-11¼ 6 months 11⅝-11⅞
1 month 11⅛-11⅛ 9 months 11⅝-11⅝
3 months 11⅛-11⅜ 12 months 11⅝-11⅝

Local Authority Deposits (%)
2 days 11⅝ 7 days 11⅝
1 month 11⅝ 3 months 11⅝
6 months 11⅝ 12 months 11⅝

Local Authority Bonds (%)
1 month 12⅛-12 2 months 12⅛-11⅞
3 months 12-11⅞ 6 months 12-11⅞
9 months 11⅞-11⅝ 12 months 11⅝-11⅝

Sterling CDs (%)
1 month 11⅛-11⅛ 3 months 11⅝-11⅛
6 months 11⅝-11⅛ 12 months 11⅝-11⅝

Dollar CDs (%)
1 month 8.00-7.95 3 months 7.85-7.80
6 months 7.85-7.80 12 months 7.95-7.90

EURO-CURRENCY DEPOSITS %

Dollar		call	8⅝-7⅝
7 days	7⅝-8	1 month	8⅛-8
3 months	8-7⅞	6 months	8-7⅞
Deutschmark		call	5-4
7 days	5⅛-5⅜	1 month	4⅝-4 15/16
3 months	4¾-4¼	6 months	4⅝-4¼
French Franc		call	9-8
7 days	9⅛-9	1 month	13-12⅞
3 months	13⅜-12⅞	6 months	13⅛-12⅜
Swiss Franc		call	1½-¾
7 days	10⅞-10	1 month	4¾-4⅝
3 months	4⅝-4 15/16	6 months	4¾-4⅛
Yen		call	7¼-6⅞
7 days	8⅝-8⅛	1 month	8⅛-7 15/16
3 months	7⅝-7⅜	6 months	7-6⅞

GOLD

Krugerrand* (per coin)
$327.50-329.00 (£230.00-231.25)
Sovereigns* (new)
$76.00-79.00 (£54.75-55.50)
*Excludes VAT

ECGD

Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV
Average reference rate for interest period 5 November, 1985 to 3 December, 1985, inclusive: 11.812 per cent.

TREASURY BILL TENDER

Applications: £422.16m allotted £100m
Bids at: £97.21% received 29%
Last week: £97.215% received 13%
Average rate: £11.1807% Last week: £11.1583%
Next week: £100m replace £100m

WALL STREET

New York, (Reuter) Blue chip stocks moved sharply higher in early trading as a session, in which some observers expect heavy trading and wide price swings, got under way.

The Don Jones industrial average was up 8 points to 1552. Advances had a narrow lead over declines on turnover of 13 million shares.

Expiration of December contracts in options on individual stocks, stock index features and options led to the presictions that trading will be heavy.

	Dec 19	Dec 18
AMR	41⅝	43
ASA	34⅛	35¼
Allied Signal	47	46⅛
Allied Stores	66⅝	69⅝
Allis Chalmers	4	3⅞
Alcoa	35¼	38⅝
Amax Inc	13	13⅛
Amerada Hess	27	28⅝
Am Brands	64⅛	64⅛
Am Broadcast	120⅝	120⅝
Am Can	61⅞	61⅝
Am Cyanamid	58¼	58
Am Elec Power	23⅞	24⅛
Am Express	52⅝	53¾
Am Home	65⅜	64⅝
Am Motors	2⅝	2⅝
Am Standard	38⅛	38⅞
Am Telephone	25	24⅞
Amoco	63	61⅝
Armco Steel	9⅛	9⅛
Asarco	18⅝	17⅞
Ashland Oil	38⅝	36½
Atlantic Richfield	82	86⅝
Avon Products	27¼	27½
Bankers Tst NY	77⅛	72⅝
Bankamerica	15⅛	15
Bank of Boston	60⅛	60
Bank of NY	51⅞	48⅞
Baxter Trav	15	15⅝
Beatrice Foods	45⅞	45¼
Bethlehem Steel	16	16
Boeing	50⅝	50⅜
Boise Cascade	45⅛	45⅝
Borden	50⅜	50¾
Borg Warner	25⅜	25⅞
Bristol Myers	67⅛	67⅜
BP	30⅝	30⅛
Burlington Ind	32⅛	31⅞
Burlington Nthn	71⅝	71⅞
Burroughs	63	62⅝
Campbell Soup	52⅜	51⅞
Canadian Pacific	13⅛	13¼
Caterpillar	42⅛	42⅛
Celanese	143	147⅜
Central SW	27	27⅝
Champion	24	23⅞
Chase Manhat	67⅜	67⅛
Chem Bank NY	45	45⅝
Chevron	37⅛	37⅛
Chrysler	45⅝	48⅛
Citicorp	49⅝	49
Clark Equip	25⅜	25
Coca Cola	85⅝	88⅜
Colgate	32⅞	32⅝
CBS	115¼	114⅞
Columbia Gas	39⅞	38½
Combustion Eng	30¼	30¼
Comwith Edison	30	30⅛
Cons Edison	38⅛	38
Cons Nat Gas	47⅞	47⅛
Cons Power	7⅝	8
Control Data	20⅝	20⅝
Corning Glass	61⅞	60½
CPC Intl	51¼	50¾
Crane	40⅛	40
Crown Zeller	41⅝	41⅜
Dart & Kraft	42⅞	43⅛
Deere	27⅛	26½
Delta Air	39	39⅛
Detroit Edison	18⅞	18⅞
Digital Equip	131⅛	128⅞
Disney	110⅛	103⅜
Dow Chemical	41⅛	40⅝
Dresser Ind	16⅝	17
Duke Power	39⅞	39⅛
Du Pont	67⅜	67⅛
Eastern Air	6	6
Eastman Kodak	48⅞	48⅛
Eaton Corp	62½	62⅜
Emerson Elect	30¾	30⅛
Emery Air Frgt	16⅝	16⅞

	Dec 19	Dec 18
Exxon Corp	54⅜	54⅛
Fed Dept Stores	67⅝	70⅛
Firestone	21½	21⅝
Fst Chicago	26⅛	27½
Fst Instrst Bncp	32⅛	32½
Fst Penn Corp	6⅞	7½
Ford	59¼	56⅝
GAF Corp	51½	62¼
GTE Corp	45⅞	46
Gen Corp	61⅛	61¼
Gen Dynamics	68⅝	67⅜
Gen Electric	71¼	71⅛
Gen Inst	17⅞	17⅞
Gen Mills	61⅞	61⅞
Gen Motors	75⅞	75⅞
Gen Pub Util NY	16	16
Genesco	3	2⅝
Georgia Pacific	25⅝	25½
Gillette	71⅛	71⅝
Goodrich	32¼	32⅝
Goodyear	30⅝	30½
Gould Inc	30⅛	29⅞
Grace	48	48
Gt Atlc & Pacific	21½	21⅝
Greyhound	33½	31⅜
Grumman Corp	33⅝	32⅞
Gulf & West	49⅝	48½
Heinz H. J.	32½	32⅝
Hercules	39	39¼
Hewlett-Pkrd	36⅝	36½
Honeywell	78⅛	77½
IC Inds	39	39⅛
Ingersoll	53½	54
Inland Steel	23⅝	23½
IBM	153⅝	152⅝
Int Harvester	6⅝	6½
INCO	12¾	12⅝
Int Paper	51⅝	51
Int Tel Tel	36⅝	36¼
Irving Bank	38⅞	38⅛
Jim Walter	42¼	42⅜
Johnson & John	53⅝	52⅜
Kaiser Alumin	18⅛	18⅝
KnCoSee	32⅝	31½
Kimberly Clark	66⅛	65⅜
K Mart	35⅞	36⅛
Kroger	49	49⅛
L.T.V. Corp	6⅝	6¾
Litton	80	80⅞
Lockheed	47¼	48⅝
Lucky Stores	25⅛	24⅞
Manuf Hanover	46	46¼
Manville Cp	5¾	5⅝
Mapco	37⅜	36⅝
Marine Midland	35¾	35⅞
Martin Marietta	36⅝	36⅞
Masco Ind	25⅝	25⅜
McDonnell	71⅝	70⅝
Mead	42⅝	43¼
Merck	135⅛	134⅝
Minnesota Mng	90⅛	89⅞
Mobil Oil	30⅝	29⅞
Monsanto	47⅝	48⅛
Morgan J. P.	62⅝	63⅛
Motorola	37⅞	37⅞
NCR Corp	40⅞	40⅞
NL Industries	13⅝	13⅝
Nat Distillers	36⅞	37
Nat Med Ent	22⅞	22⅛
Nat Semicndctr	13⅛	13
Norfolk South	70⅜	70⅛
Nor Bancorp	30⅛	30¼
Occidental Pet	33⅝	33⅞
Ogden	33	33⅛
Olin Corp	37⅛	36⅝
Owens-Illinois	52⅛	52⅛
Pacific Gas Elec	19⅞	20⅛
Pan Am	7⅝	7⅛
Penney J. C.	55⅞	55⅛
Pennzoil	61⅛	61¼
Pepsico	69⅞	71¼

	Dec 19	Dec 18
Pfizer	53	52⅝
Phelps Dodge	23	22⅛
Philip Morris	86⅛	85⅞
Phillips Petrol	12⅜	12
Polaroid	43	41⅝
PPG Ind	50⅜	50⅝
Procter Gamble	70	70
Pub Ser El & Gas	32¼	32⅜
Raytheon	53	53½
RCA Corp	59⅛	59⅝
Reynolds Ind	30¼	30⅝
Reynolds Metal	37¼	37¼
Rockwell Int	36⅛	36⅞
Royal Dutch	61⅞	60⅝
Safeways	39⅝	39⅞
Sara Lee	50	50⅜
SFE Sopac	35⅛	34⅝
SCM	72⅛	72½
Schlumberger	34⅝	34¼
Scott Paper	50⅛	49⅝
Seagram	48¼	49
Sears Roebuck	39⅞	39⅝
Shell Trans	37¼	37
Singer	42	41½
Smithkline Beck	75⅞	77
Sony	19⅝	20⅜
Sth Cal Edison	27⅝	28⅛
Sperry Corp	54	52⅞
Std Oil Ohio	50⅝	51
Sterling Drug	38⅞	37⅝
Stevens J. P.	30⅞	31
Sun Corp	51	50⅞
Teledyne	298	301
Tenneco	39⅝	39⅝
Texaco	29⅝	29⅝
Texas East Corp	33½	34
Texas Inst	106⅞	104⅜
Texas Utilities	31	31⅛
Textron	49⅛	48⅝
Travelers Corp	47⅜	47¾
TRW Inc	69⅝	67
UAL Inc	50⅛	50⅝
Unilever NV	129⅞	130⅞
Union Carbide	72	72⅝
Un Pacific Corp	53⅛	52⅝
United Brands	25⅞	25⅛
US Steel	28⅝	28⅝
Utd Technol	45	45⅛
Unocal	27	26⅝
Warner Comms	54⅛	54⅜
Warner Lambert	48⅛	45⅞
Wells Fargo	63⅜	63⅛
Westinghse Elec	45	45¼
Weyerhauser	30⅝	31
Whirlpool	48	49⅝
Woolworth	59⅝	60
Xerox Corp	95⅛	96⅛
Zenith	20	19¾

CANADIAN PRICES

Abitibi	17	17¼
Alcan Alumin	40⅝	40⅞
Algoma Steel	20¼	20⅛
Bell Telephone	41⅝	40⅞
Can Pacific	18⅝	18⅝
Cominco	11⅞	12
Cons Bathurst	18¼	18⅛
Gulf Oil	20¼	20⅝
Hawker/Sid Can	23¼	22⅞
Hudson Bay Min	6¾	6¾
Imasco	27	27⅛
Imperial Oil	51⅜	52⅝
Int Pipe	43	45⅜
Mass.-Fergan	2.90	2.90
Royal Trustco	23¼	23
Seagram	67⅜	67
Steel Co	23⅝	23⅞
Thomson N 'A'	22¾	22½
Walker Hiram	32	32
WCT	17⅜	17⅜

● Ex div. a Asked. e Ex distribution. b Bid. k Market closed. n New issue. p Stock split. t Traded. y Unquoted.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Three Month Sterling	Open	High	Low	Close	Est Vol
Mar 86	88.41	88.44	88.35	88.43	660
Jun 86	88.80	88.83	88.79	88.83	54
Sep 86	89.02	89.04	89.00	89.04	36
Dec 86	88.99	88.99	88.99	89.02	5
Mar 87	NT			88.96	0
Jun 87	NT				0
Previous day's total open interest 6710					
Three Month Eurodollar					
Mar 86	92.31	92.32	92.23	92.30	2003
Jun 86	92.22	92.22	92.15	92.21	372
Sep 86	92.00	92.00	91.94	91.97	239
Dec 86	91.71	91.71	91.68	91.68	42
Mar 87	91.43	91.43	91.39	91.40	20
Previous day's total open interest 17496					
US Treasury Bond					
Mar 86	84-10	84-19	83-28	84-17	2648
Jun 86	NT			83-19	0
Sep 86	NT				0
Previous day's total open interest 2861					
Short Gilt					
Dec 85	96-10	96-11	96-10	96-10	15
Mar 86	96-24	96-25	96-23	96-25	86
Jun 86	NT				0
Previous day's total open interest 872					
Long Gilt					
Dec 85	NT			110-25	0
Mar 86	110-29	111-02	110-26	111-01	641
Jun 86	111-08	111-08	111-08	111-12	5
Sep 86	NT			111-22	0
Previous day's total open interest 4315					
FT-SE 100					
Dec 85	139.60	139.60	139.00	139.20	213
Mar 86	140.40	140.50	140.30	140.35	42
Previous day's total open interest 2828					

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

● **LONGREACH OIL:** The Australian National Companies and Securities Commission has stopped dealings in the ordinary shares of Longreach Oil until further notice.

● *EVERED HOLDINGS:* The company is expanding its British operations with the acquisition for £6.7 million net of the whole of the issued share capital of Wellington Equipment from Tarmac Building Products (a subsidiary of Tarmac) and certain related assets.

● **AUSTIN REED GROUP:** The group is to acquire J. A. Robertson and Sons (Dumfries), an independent manufacturer of cashmere and lambswool knitwear, for an estimated consideration of £2,235,000.

● **FORMINSTER:** The company has announced an interim dividend of 2.03p (2.03p). Half-year results to October 31 (figures in £000) show turnover at 7,453 (7,379), group profit after all charges at 374 (336) profit attributable at 374 (336) and earnings per share at 8.18p (6.77p).

● **GIBBON LYONS GROUP:** For *the half-year to Sept 30, with figures* in £000, turnover was 1,584 (1,478), while the pretax profit was 218 (202). Earnings per share were 3.1p (2.9p). An interim dividend of 1.2p, as indicated in the prospectus, is *being paid.*

● **E.R.F. (HOLDINGS(:** For the half-year to Sept. 28, with figures £000, turnover was 34,185 (33,502), while pre-tax profit was 335 (loss, 1,093).

● *THERMAL SCIENTIFIC:* The company is to purchase Wentgate Engineers, which designs and manufactures electric vacuum furnaces and electron beam welders in Huntingdonshire. The initial price is £1.25 million, with further sums payable, depending on profits.

● **FUJITSU:** Results for the six months to September 30 (figures in yen million) show net sales of 809,850 (£2.8 billion). Income before tax was 39,638 and net income 26,854. Net income per share was (primary) yen 19.02.

● **SOUTHEND STADIUM:** The board has now entered into talks for the development of the stadium site into units containing over 100,000 sq ft of retail warehousing, a restaurant and car parking. In addition, a small portion of the site has been approved for residential housing.

● **BREWMAKER:** The company has bought condessa, a privately owned canning and bottling company, at Chester, for a maximum of £200,000.

● **BP:** Petroleum Development will receive 15 per cent of any profit on oil found under a new, 20-year exploration contract with Ecuador's state oil firm, Cepe, which will receive 85 per cent.

● **BRAMMER:** Energy Services and Electronics, a subsidiary of Brammer, has transferred control of Neve Electronic Holdings to Siemens. This has been effected by additional share capital, so acquiring 96.5 per cent of the enlarged capital of Neve. Certain inter-company accounts have been repaid to ESE and bank borrowings have been passed to Siemens. These total £3 million. ESE will have the option to sell its 3.5 per cent minority stake.

● **IMTEC GROUP:** The group is missing its interim dividend (0.4p). Figures in £000 for the half-year to October 4 show turnover of 4,391 (4,630), pretax loss at 991 (profit 21) and loss per share at 9.9p (earnings 0.2p).

TEMPUS

Food for thought at Cadbury Schweppes

Analysts who cover Cadbury Schweppes could be forgiven for feeling that the company has given them an unduly hard time in the week before Christmas. First there was the announcement that it was to sell its barely profitable Jeyes and health and hygiene division in three management buyouts worth £19 million.

Then came the proposed link with Coca-Cola whereby a jointly owned company is planned to take on the canning and distribution of all Coca-Cola and Schweppes brands in Britain. Something apppears to be concentrating the minds of the Cadbury management.

Health and hygiene has been a time-consuming problem on and off for 13 years. Its disposal is in line with the company's strategy of concentrating on confectionery and drinks. With this in mind the link-up with Coca-Cola clearly makes sense. The new joint company will be the market leader in both cola drinks and *mixers, and will eventually* hold more than a quarter of the fizzy drinks market overall.

The birth pangs of the new venture may well be protracted, however. Schweppes' present franchise deal with PepsiCo, has a two-year notice period, and Coca-Cola's own franchise arrangement with Beecham – which covers *Scotland and the North of* England – runs until 1992. The shares, virtually steady at 155p since the announcement, are not taking that long a view.

What odds now on the future of the beverages and foods division? The chocolate drinks such as Bournvita and Drinking chocolate have obvious links with confectionery, but the tea and coffee products – Typhoo and Kenco – and the foods businesses look as if they are desinted to go, with Chivers and Hartley's top of the list. The company is open to offers, and the City would like to see action sooner rather than later. Cadbury Schweppes stil looks vulnerable to a bid, but far less so than this time last week.

As for the two spurned partners in the cola war. Beecham at least has a seven-year breathing space to replace business which brings in profits of about £6 million. True love on the rebound may be hard to find but PepsiCo and Beecham must surely be beating paths to each other's door by now.

Beecham already has a distribution network that could cope with the national Pepsi-Cola franchise and also has the option of building up its own soft drinks brand names, and if Coca-Cola wants to buy its way out of the franchise before 1992, Beecham will name the price.

Williams/Spencer Clark

A quiet revolution is taking place in the engineering industry. It may not be as eyecatching as the changes in the high street or City, but half a dozen companies with aggressive and expansion-minded managements are building little empires in the sector.

The deal announced yesterday by Williams Holdings is typical of the new style. Williams has come a long way in four years, with its value rising from £850,000 when the present management took control, to £72 million at yesterday's share price of 373p.

This year it has acquired J & H B Jackson for £32 million and Rawlplug for £11.5 million.

Now Williams is planning to buy Spencer Clark Metal Industries. It may be smaller than the earlier purchases but it has several attractive features.

With Williams' acquisition *team still busy sorting out* Rawlplug, the first of these is that Spencer Clark does not need to be reorganized as the existing management has proved itself to be very capable.

It has built businesses in a number of growing areas, notably aerospace, and has a subsidiary making construction *fixings, which will fit in well* with Rawplug. It also provides the American platform Williams has been seeking.

Williams has secured a recommendation from the Spencer Clark board, even though its offer is not generous.

Spencer Clark's profits rose from £245,000 to £920,000 last year and this year it might well make as much as £1.3 million before tax. Williams is offering £7.3 million cash or only six times prospective earnings, allowing for a tiny tax charge.

The offer however represents a good premium to the share price prevailing before talks were announced and it stands at a 150 per cent premium to assets, leaving £4.4 million goodwill to be written off.

After issuing 10 million shares (including convertibles) for Jackson and 3 million for Rawplug Williams is keen to pay for Spencer Clark in cash. *It is however offering a share* alternative but this is worth less than the cash.

It may be an expensive way to buy the shares but it is still worthwhile. Other companies may not sell on the terms that Spencer Clark's directors have accepted.

Gilts

The gilts market wound down for Christmas in a curious mood of liquor-fuelled exuberance on one hand, and growing disenchantment with unfavourable fundamentals on the other. Amid all this, index-linked slipped a further ½ point, intimating a further upward notch in the level of real interest rates.

Flash fourth-quarter American GNP figures emerged amid a welter of statistical revisions. These leave bond traders with the curious sensation of not having known where they were, even when they were there. Real GNP growth in 1982 has been revised on still further to minus 2.5 per cent.

The US recession was even deeper than was thought at the time. But during 1984, the wonderful year of recovery, the real gains were just 6.6 per cent in the US, rather than the 6.8 per cent assumed.

The changes for 1985 are even more dazzling. The average rate of American real growth slips from 2.7 per cent, to 2.2 per cent, but this is still low enough to enable the third quarter to show a gain on the median growth rate.

Hence the flash fourth-quarter GNP figure of 3.2 per cent was high enough to register a further gain on the previous quarter, and presumably strong enough to deter the Federal Reserve from clipping a ½ point off the Discount Rate.

Nothing is certain about the current conduct of US monetary policy, but London traders steadily abandoned hope that gilts would receive any help from the US before Christmas and accepted support from more obvious quarters in large quantities.

To demonstrate the perversity of markets, bonds immediately went better on the back of the GNP figures, partly on bear closing and partly on technical grounds.

STOCK MARKET REPORT

J. Rothschild cashes in on oil bid

By Derek Pain and Pam Spooner

J. Rothschild Holdings the investment house which has become one of London's leading arbitrage specialists, has been demonstrating its skills in the £145 million takeover bid for Charterhouse Petroleum.

Since Petrofina, Belgium's largest company, launched its offer on Tuesday, JRH has increased its shareholding in Charterhouse to 9.3 per cent by buying 2 million shares.

The JRH buying has prompted talk of a counter bid from another oil group or even from JRH itself.

But the investment specialists at JRH are certainly not thinking about a bid. They feel that London has got hooked on the cash offer from Petrofina which is worth 100p a share.

It has not focused on the cash and shares alternative largely because Petrofina's shares are quoted in Brussels.

The alternative offer has been worth up to 110p a Charterhouse share "and we thought we would indulge in a little arbitrage", said a JRH spokesma.

JRH paid 101p and 101½p for its Charterhouse shares which closed at 102p yesterday.

The two week account closed on a subdued note with the FT 30 share index closing 6.3 points down at 1,108.6 points. The FT-SE share index lost 4.2 points at 1,386.5 points.

But prices were above their worst levels at the close following the appearance of a few new time buyers.

Quilter Goodison, the broker, returned from a visit to Palma Group with an optimistic view. The sock maker is on the mend, says the City firm, having recovered from its problems in digesting Montfort Group. Shares of Palma now trade at about 34p, against 28p a week ago and more than 40p 15 months ago.

Grand Metropolitan, Glaxo Group and Allied-Lyons were the liveliest FT index stocks.

Government stocks held on to gains of up to £3/16 with index-linked stocks occasionally scoring a £1/8 rise.

Banks were dull but insurances perked up. Legal & General Assurance, worried on Thursday by rumours of problems at its Victory reinsurance subsidiary, regained its composure with a 13p rise to 727p.

Unilever continued to respond to the profit forecast by Wood, Mackenzie, the broker, and gained a further 20p to a 1,350p peak.

Exco International saw its share price drop 25p to 202p – having fallen below 200p at one stage – as it revealed an agreement with Tan Sri Khoo Teck Puat that he had become deputy chairman of the company and had two of his nominees on the Exco Board.

English China Clays was boosted by investors, however, in response to the Lasmo/Rio Tinto-Zinc/Enterprise Oil deal. With Enterprise effectively crosse off the RTZ shopping list, market men reckon ECC is a likely takeover target. ECC shares rose 11p to 287p.

But other City dealers still put Pilkington Brothers top of that RTZ list. Pilkington shares inched 3p higher to 318p.

SGB Group dropped 16p to 246p along side news that the bid from British Electric Traction has been referred to the Monopolies & Mergers Commission.

There was a flurry of action in United Biscuits shares as differing market opinions had their effect on the price. Those who had thought Coco-Cola Company was a bidder for UB were duly disappointed when Coco-Cola announced its deal with Cadbury-Schweppes on *Thursday, and UB price was* knocked 6p lower o 234p in early trading.

But the broker to UB, Wood Mackenzie, stayed a supporter of the shares, on the basis that they "are a good each way bet".

Though the bid for UB from Imperial Group appears to have little chance of success, it does at least value UB currently at about 325p.

Other market men still reckon PepsiCo is the real rival for Imperial, and talk around the Square Mile is that US group now has close to 5 per cent of UB shares. The Coca-Cola/Cadbury deal puts PepsiCo in the shade in Britain, and could provide still more incentive for PepsiCo to make an offer.

By the end of the day the UB price was back to 241p– a net gain of 1p in a lazy market. Cadbury shares dipped 2p to 155p, and Imperial slipped 2p to 259p.

Stores shares slid downward yesterday as analysts began saying the sector had risen far enough in 1985. The Christmas shopping boom which still goes on has been built into sector prices over the past few weeks.

Harris Queensway fell 8p to 222p, Burton Group slipped 10p to 543p, Dixons Group eased 2p to 887p, Habitat-Mothercare fell 7p to 446p, Marks and Spencer was 3p down at 174p and Woolworth Holdings dipped 7p to 516p. There were losses of a penny or two for other leading stores.

Cannon Street Investments, where there are hopes of growth through the injection of assets, rose 7p to 85p. The shares traded at about 45p when they re-emerged on the USM this summer after an 11-year absence from the lists.

Sigmex International, an electronics systems engineering group, is due to make its USM debut on New Year's Eve. Robert Fleming, the merchant banker, and L Messel, the broker, have placed shares at 101p with the company receiving £2 million from the issue. There is no profits forecast but the historic p/e, adjusted to include interest on the £2 million, is put at 9.4.

Shares of May & Hassell, the timber importer, rose 2p to 100p yesterday – 7p below their 1985 peak. Market talk is that interim figures, due on Monday, will show a £500,000 loss, against a £1.1 million profit. The company is effectively family-controlled but Deltec Securities, an American group, has 15.2 per cent.

●Traded Options business slowed down yesterday, looking as hung over as the rest of the stock market. Total volume for the day reached just 11,053 contracts, some way off the lively trading we have seen in recent weeks. Three *options* dominated the scene, with Marks & Spencer totting up 2,002 contracts traded. Lasmo saw volume of 1,166 and Lonrho 1,296.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
101	87	Alba	97	-½	2.6	2.6	..
688	580	Alliance	675	..	28.1n	3.9	..
155	118	Amer Trust	134	..	4.3	3.2	..
362	245	Anglo Amer Sec	290	..	8.1	2.8	..
302	123	Ashdown	150	+2	4.2b	2.8	..
220	88	Atlantic Assets	111	-1	2.5	2.3	..
102	83	Bankers	98

هكذا عن الأصل

Hotels with room for £1.64m backers

BUSINESS EXPANSION

Hotels and retirement homes are the main BES delicacies served up for investors this week. Coastal Resort Hotels is looking for a maximum of £1.64 million (minimum £400,000) to operate three-star standard hotels on the south-east coast. It is projecting profits of £154,000 by April 30, 1987 – that is after 16 months' trading, rising to £311,000 by the end of year five.

One particularly worthy feature is that the management company looking after Coastal Resort Hotels' operations is putting up between £125,000 and £512,000 of its own money (to give it effectively a 25 per cent stake in the BES company) on the same terms as outside investors. Also worth noting is the fact that this BES issue contains none of the directors' share option schemes that characterize a large number of BES issues.

The expenses of the issue will come to almost a quarter of the amount being raised if only the minimum subscription is reached – £95,000 in expenses is a considerable chunk out of the £400,000 minimum. However, the maximum level of expense, £140,000, is less than 10 per cent of the maximum subscription – if that is achieved.

The company will also have the benefit of a £1.25 million loan from 3i, which is repayable between 1990 and 2002. Subject to the company proceeding with one particular hotel project it is contemplating, 3i will have an option to acquire 10 per cent of the company – paying £1.25p per share, as outside investors are now paying.

The profit records are established

However, 3i will benefit from a long, hard look at the company before committing its money, as the option that it has taken can be exercised at any time up until November 2002.

General management charges paid to the management company, Resort Hotels plc, which was financed in March 1984 by 3i and BES fund money, will be 3 per cent of both the gross revenue and the gross operating profit. Resort Hotels plc will be transferring a hotel and a freehold site (if the maximum subscription is raised) to the BES company at cost price.

Branch Retirement Homes plc is aiming to raise up to £828,000 from investors to purchase and manage retirement homes for the elderly. The company intends to acquire initially up to five existing residential homes with established profit records, positive cash flow and an occupancy level of 80 per cent.

The prospectus contains no forecast or projection of the company's likely profits.

However, David Glaser, managing director of the company – who will initially receive a basic salary of up to £25,000 a year – will, in addition, be entitled to commission payments which vary as a percentage of the company's profits before tax.

The directors, who between them have invested £50,000 in the company, have acquired 20,000 founder shares at par, which can be converted into ordinary shares of the company. Each founder share carries the right to subscribe at the £1 par level for 24 ordinary shares at any time before January 1, 1991.

Lawrence Lever

The sweetener for savers

Holders of index-linked National Savings certificates will find the 1985-86 supplement paid on these issues will be brought forward in 1986 and credited on August 1 instead of November 1 as in previous years. This is being introduced as a blatant sweetener to deter the rash of encashments which these issues have seen in recent months.

The supplement will be 3 per cent but by being credited three months earlier it will give savers an effective annual rate of 4 per cent over the nine months from the previous supplement.

The 'false freedoms' of Fowler's reforms

PENSIONS

Backroom boys in the banks, building societies, unit trust and insurance companies are reading and re-reading the chapter on pension provision contained in Norman Fowler's White Paper on social security reform published earlier this week.

On the face of it Mr Fowler's plans liberalize pensions on two fronts. First, the individual will be able to opt for a personal portable pension as an alternative to the state or an occupational pension scheme. Secondly, it increases the range of financial institutions which will be able to offer pension plans to the public.

The business will no longer be the preserve of the insurance companies. Banks, unit trusts and building societies will be able to get in on the act realizing their ambitions to become all-singing all-dancing financial services groups.

Clearly the Government is committed to the idea of personal portable pensions – the question is whether it has made the option sufficiently attractive for the individual to take.

Not everyone thinks it has. "The White Paper is an awful document", says Tim Miller of the Framlington Unit Trust group. "I can't see that it is going to encourage anyone currently in an occupational scheme to leave and buy a personal portable pension. It is an artificial freedom."

He points out what he regards as the two major deficiencies in Fowler. First there is the question of additional voluntary contributions (AVCs), the extra amounts you can pay into a pension scheme, subject to tax rules, to increase your eventual income on retirement.

At present not every occupational pension scheme will let you do this. But the White Paper gives this as a right to the individual.

What it does not do, however, is let you choose where you put the money. "The simplest thing would have been to allow individuals to invest

'People would be a bit mad to do this'

AVCs in something like a self-employed pension plan", says Mr Miller.

The point about how much real choice the individual will have is echoed by Mark Daniels at Equitable Life, who says: "It's unclear whether the trustees of an occupational pension scheme will have to provide any choice about how AVC money is invested. From my reading of the White Paper it looks as though their obligation extends only as far as putting the extra money into the main scheme."

The second point is that there is no onus on the employer to pay his share of pension contributions into the personal pension plan of someone who opts out of an occupational pension scheme. "This means that people would be a bit mad to do it on the whole", says Mr Miller.

According to John Stone at Target, the fact that employers do not have to contribute may not worry those individuals whom he foresees as being the main takers of this option.

He says: "Basically they will be fairly young, highly paid employees, who don't stay in jobs for more than two or three years. What will happen is that the employer who wants them will be prepared to negotiate a pension contribution as the price of hiring them."

Mr Stone thinks the great contribution of the new pension proposals is that it will create greater public awareness and interest.

He says: "Widening the market to allow banks and building societies to offer pensions is going to mean marketing at high-street level. One of the disappointing things is that despite the generous tax incentives, only around a quarter of the self-employed currently eligible to take out a personal pension plan actually do so. Once the banks and building societies get in there, it is going to make the idea of pensions much more immediate and accessible."

On the point of widening the competition, the White Paper says: "Experience of individual retirement accounts in the United States has shown how healthy competition among financial institutions can work to the advantage of the consumer."

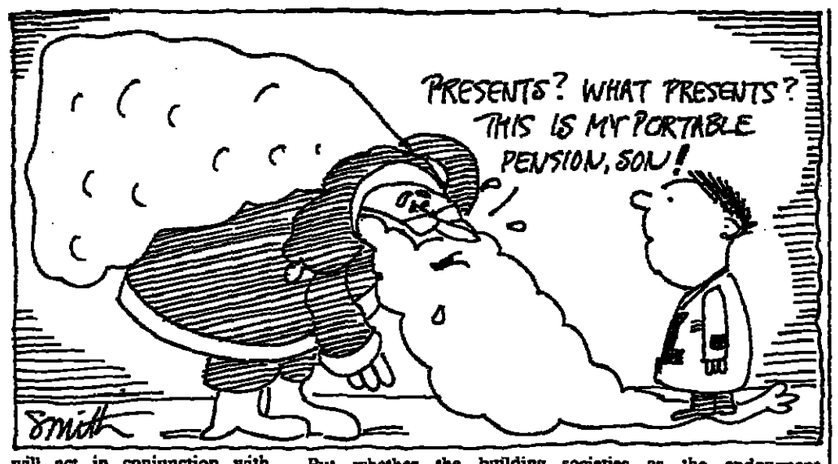
On the face of it, the building societies with their huge branch networks are extremely well placed to market pension plans. But the provision in the White Paper that, "building societies will act in conjunction with other financial institutions", rather than producing their own, is seen in some quarters as a stumbling block.

Tim Melville Ross, of the Nationwide, says: "I think we will be pressing the Government on this point. We would really like to act as principals in pensions not just as agents for someone else, which is all that the Fowler changes permit us to do.

"We can appreciate the fact that, with so much going on, the

Much better value will be introduced

Government does not want us to run before we can walk. But we have shown ourselves perfectly capable of moving into risk areas like wholesale money market funding over the last four or five years. I would suspect that the top 10 or so building societies who are going to be keen to do pensions will want to offer their own product and not just act as brokers."



But whether the building societies act as agents or principals, the Fowler changes will mean a huge growth in pension mortgages with subsequent benefits. At present pension mortgages are available only to those with a personal pension plan. They are off-limits to people in occupational pensions.

But once you can have your own personal portable pension, the floodgates will open. In fact, being able to get a pension mortgage may be one of the prime incentives for opting for a personal pension. The pension mortgage works roughly in the same way as endowment. The borrower pays interest only on the loan and the capital is paid off at the end of the term with the commuted lump sum from the pension plan. It is immensely tax-efficient with full tax relief on the interest and the contributions to the pension scheme. And the lump sum rolls up completely tax-free as well.

It is as likely to be a big bonanza for the building societies as the endowment mortgage was a few years back.

One of the most immediate benefits of the Fowler proposals is likely to be the introduction of much better value in personal pension plans. At present, charges of a standard plan are high because of the cost of commission. This usually takes the form of higher charges on the first year's contributions to the plan.

The initial payments of course, are the ones that should yield most in the long run, so this system ends up as a massive financial penalty. But already offices such as Equitable Life are selling plans without these charges. And once unit trusts can offer pension plans, the cheap and simple monthly savings schemes will receive a new lease of life.

Wider competition in the personal pensions market certainly promises to bring the high commission-led cost structure of these products down with a bang.

Maggie Drummond

The game that could make a fortune

"You start with a loan, buy sets of property, get deeper into debt until you sell at a profit."

This is part of the introductory blurb to a new financial board game, called The Bottom Line, which at first sight seems to have many of the charecteristics of Waddington's Monopoly game. You throw the dice, buy properties, and if you land on other properties owned by someone else, you pay rent, increasing according to whether the owner has a set of properties or not.

The similarity stops there. The aim of The Bottom Line is to buy the bank. You start off with £1 million cash – and £2 million pounds of debt. By speculating in property, gold bullion and casinos, you must clear all your debts and raise £5 million to buy the bank and win.

The most interesting aspect of this game, however, is the fact that the rules can more or less be found in their entirety in the Department of Trade's investigation into the collapse of London & County Securities. This was the publicly quoted bank which collapsed in November 1983, thereby triggering off the fringe banking crisis.

The Bottom Line is the creation of A. T. Pepperell. Trevor Pepperell is usually described as the *eminence grise* behind London County, and closely associated with the banks's former chairman and managing director, Gerald Caplan. Mr Pepperell, quite unashamedly admits that the game is based on his London & County experience.

"In 1960 Gerald Kaplan and I borrowed £10,000 to purchase London & County Advance and Discount," he says. "We got the rest of the money by dealing in real estate and gold, and by gambling in casinos. "The game is entirely true to life."

Mr Pepperell actually devised and tested the game during his stays in various of Her Majesty's prisons. "Some of the finest criminal minds in this country have gone through this game from end to end," he says.

Of Ford he says: "One door closed on my life and another opened. There was my ready-made research and development department." This was small consolation for the creditors of London & Country.

The Bottom Line is actually marketed in games shops by a company called Silver Bear plc. This is also the name of a further game that Mr Pepperell intends to introduce on the subject of the Bunker Hunt silver fiasco.

LL

Ring in to use your extra BT voucher

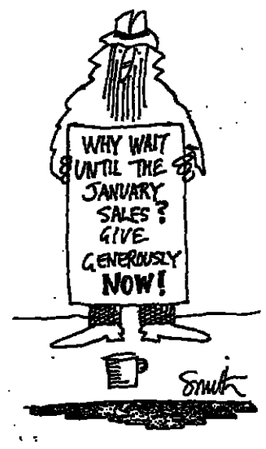
A scheme has been worked out which will enable married couples who were buyers of British Telecom shares to take advantage of their double amount of £18 telephone vouchers. British Telecom will now issue, on request, an interim bill to help these shareholders redeem all their vouchers. Only one voucher can be used against each quarterly telephone bill and a husband and wife who each bought 400 or more British Telecom shares may have received two vouchers each. In some cases, they may receive only three bills for their telephone account before the vouchers expire on April 25, 1986, and would not, therefore, be able to use the fourth voucher – hence the offer of an interim bill against which the fourth voucher can be set.

British Telecom recommends married couples to check whether they come into this category and, if so, ring BT on Linkline 0345 010505 or 0345 010707 and request an interim bill.

War widows' plea

An attempt to persuade the Government to grant concessions to war widows on the taxation of subsidized nursery places provided for their children has met with unenthusiastic response. The Labour MP for Islington South, Chris Smith, tabled a parliamentary question, asking the Chancellor of the Exchequer, "if he will seek to exempt war widows from tax on the benefit from a child in a workplace nursery". The taxation of employees who make use of subsidized workplace nurseries hit the headlines more than a year ago when mothers at the Kingsway nursery in London suddenly received back tax demands for benefits in kind. War widows would be equally hit by this.

John Moore, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, replied that benefits in kind are a form of remuneration, and it would not be appropriate to exempt a specific section of the community from tax on them. The benefit of an employer-subsidized nursery place, in common with other benefits in kind, has been taxable in the hands of directors and certain employees (those earning at a rate of £8,500 or more) since legislation was first introduced by the Labour Government in 1948.



Top-price loans

Customers of Midshires Building Society can afford to turn down the wonderful new offer on personal loans. Midshires is pushing a personal loan scheme through United Dominions Trust which carries an interest rate (APR) of 23.8 per cent – more expensive even than credit card borrowing. With so many societies in the market keen to lend us money for almost anything – including remortgages – at anything from 12.5 per cent upwards, who needs to borrow money at 23.8 per cent?

Christmas turn-off

Customers of Barclays and Lloyds should make sure they have enough cash to last the Christmas break, because automatic cash dispensers at these two banks will be shutting down for that period. On the other hand, customers of NatWest and Midland (where cash cards are interchangeable and can be used in the machines of both banks) will be able to make transactions, 24 hours a day.

The less fortunate customers of Barclays will find their machines will not work from 10pm Christmas Eve until 10am Boxing Day. At Lloyds, the machines will not operate from 11.30pm Christmas Eve until 6.30am Boxing Day.

Insurance hotline

About 18,000 customers have bought their motor insurance through Royal Bank of Scotland's Direct Line quotation service since it was launched on September 1. The service claims to make buying insurance simple, with no forms to fill in before you take out the policy. Quotes on 01-686 2468.

Free wheels

Readers will be pleased to hear that new car tax regulations coming into effect on January 1 will mean that when your grandmother dies in America or Australia and leaves you her 1957 Chevvy, you will be able to import it into Britain without liability to import tax.

League of costs

Employment Conditions Abroad, a consultancy advising employers paying expatriate employees working overseas, reports this week that the cost of a shopping basket of essential items has risen by 53 per cent since 1980 over Western Europe as a whole. However, the rise in Britain is only 39 per cent, putting Britain in 65th position out of 70 countries, compared with 47th in the 1980 survey. The consultancy points out that exchange rate changes are a contributory factor as well as relative price inflation. Sterling's relative weakness has carried us down the league table, and Brazil's cost of living rise of 10,215 per cent has been offset against drastic devaluation so that it remains below us at 88th position.

Employment Conditions Abroad surveys a number of overseas costs, and can be contacted at Anchor House, 15 Britten Street, London SW3 3TY (01-351 7151).

A popular trust

Holborn Special Situations Trust launched four weeks ago has taken in almost £15 million from more than 7,000 investors. "Our direct free telephone Linkline service has proved enormously popular with new unit trust buyers and we shall be keeping the facility open from 8am until 6pm every weekday on 0800 010345," said Holborn's managing director, Alan Wren.

The bosses' big burden

Employ in haste, repent at leisure. That is the feeling of 200 small firms which were interviewed earlier this year for the Department of Trade and Industry report *Burdens on Business*.

The report, the first of its kind, attempted to identify the burdens that affected the efficient running of small businesses. Employment protection, particularly the firing of staff, came second only to dealing with VAT as the most onerous task that businessmen had to deal with.

Their initial reaction was that over a five-year period their firms would spend between £4,500 and £5,000 and 98 days of management time on employment protection.

They regarded the law and all its rules as "an unnecessary worry causing them to keep inadequate staff for fear of the financial consequences of dismissing them".

The businessmen particularly wanted to "discourage unfounded complaints" by employees which took up so much of their time and money.

The Department of Employment, therefore, came up with a controversial proposal yet to be implemented. It suggests that a deposit will have to be paid by any employee who brings a case of unfair dismissal before an industrial tribunal. A figure of £100 has been put forward which would be forfeited or refunded according to the decision of the tribunal.

In 1984 the Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service (ACAS) dealt with 37,006 cases alleging unfair dismissal.

Of these, 22 per cent were subsequently withdrawn, 3 per cent were settled privately, 44 per cent were resolved, by ACAS, and 31 per cent went on to an industrial tribunal.

Two recent cases show to what lengths small business will go to avoid becoming embroiled in industrial tribunal hearings.

A manager with one London company recently received compensation of six months' salary and his company car in a private settlement. The company concerned had "unfairly dismissed" the employee but decided to pay him considerably more than the tribunal was likely to award as "we could not afford any more time being spent on the case".

The mistake of instant sackings

In another case, a company, even though it disputed an unfair dismissal claim, paid a considerable lump sum to an employee because "an industrial tribunal hearing would cause more disruption and unrest in the company as it would have involved workers and managers in the company being called as witnesses".

An employee can bring a claim for compensation for unfair dismissal by showing first that he had the requisite period of "continuous employment" and secondly that he was "dismissed".

Employees cannot, as a general rule, bring claims for unfair dismissal within the first year of employment or within two years in businesses with less than 20 employees. For any employee taken on after June 1985, the period of "continuous employment" is two years regardless of the size of the business.

Excluded from the provisions of employment protection, regardless of the length of service, are certain part-time workers and most employees over pensionable age.

Dismissal may be "actual", that is where an employer gives an employee the sack, or where a fixed-term contract is not renewed, or "constructive" dismissal, where an employee himself ends his contract because he has been forced out of his job.

An employer with a perfectly fair reason for dismissing an employee may still finish up paying compensation if he behaves unfairly in the manner in which he effected the dismissal.

As David Hatley of IRPC said: "We find employers most often go wrong by dismissing people on the spot. They start off at a disciplinary meeting, but then they lose their temper and sack an employee there and then. They also fall foul of the law by making someone redundant and readvertising the same job three weeks later."

IRPC is one of the companies offering employers insurance policies to cover the cost of representation at industrial tribunals and payment of any awards made against them.

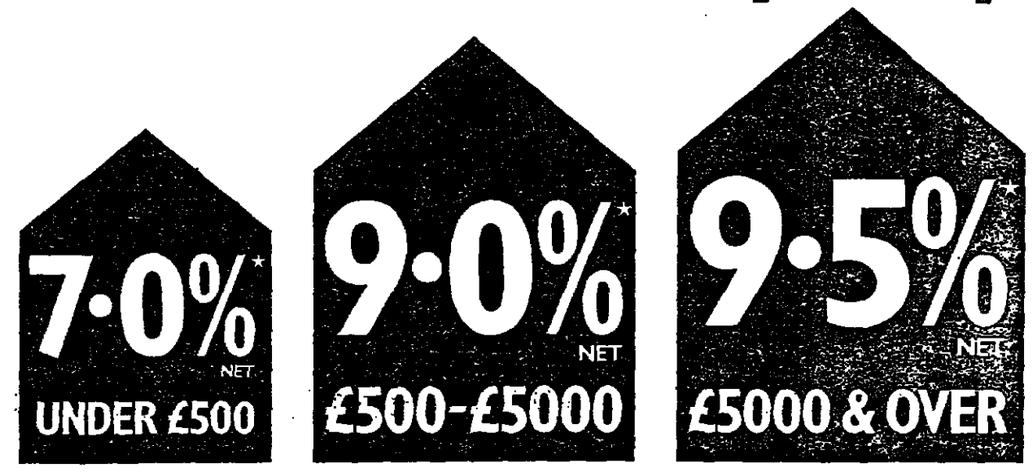
A company with a wages roll of £250,000 would pay an annual premium of approximately £180 per annum. In addition, IRPC offers a 24-hour advisory service for an extra £112 per annum. The indemnity limit of any claim, however, is only £50,000. IRPC estimates that at any one time it has 150 pending cases on its books.

There are other companies offering similar insurance protection. For free advice, however, employers should turn to ACAS, which issues a code of practice on disciplinary procedures in employment when the aim is to provide companies with "a fair and consistent method of dealing with alleged failures to observe the rules".

ACAS Head Office, 11-12 St James' Square, London SW1Y 4LA.

Susan Fieldman

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C. Hoare & Co	11½%
Lloyds Bank	11½%
Nat Westminster	11½%
Royal Bank Scotland	11½%
TSB	11½%
Citibank NA	11½%

† Mortgage Base Rate.

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

Owing to technical difficulties we are unable to carry the weekly unit trust price changes.

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
ABBEY UNIT TRUST MANAGERS				
80, Holdenhurst Rd, Bournemouth BH8 8AL				
0345 717273 (Lindins)				
Gilt & Fixed	109.8	115.1●	+0.2	10.34
High Inc Equity	78.7	81.5 o	+0.3	6.07
Worldwide Bond	160.2	171.8●	-0.1	5.85
American Growth	141.8	150.6	+0.3	2.36
Asian Pacific	44.4	48.6●	..	0.71
Assets & Earns	79.9	85.3●	-0.1	1.74
Capital Reserve	80.7	61.9	..	2.21
Comm & Energy	84.0	89.8	+0.1	2.39
European Capital	83.9	87.9	+0.1	2.39
General	117.2	125.3	-0.3	..
Japan	89.2	95.1 a	..	0.45
UK Growth Inc	72.2	77.5	-0.3	1.98
Do Accum	103.3	111.1	-0.3	..
US Emerging Co's	53.4	57.4	..	..
Equities Progress	88.5	101.2	-0.4	3.27
Mastercut Acc	48.1	52.2	-0.1	1.90
AITKEN HURST FUNDS MANAGEMENT				
30, City Road, London EC1Y 2AY				
01-638 6011				
American Tech	97.5	104.2	-2.7	0.18
Pacific	116.5	126.8	-1.0	0.89
Spec Income Fnd	141.5	151.7	+0.2	5.16
Special Situations	158.9	171.0●	..	1.52
Energy & Res	26.7	28.4 c	+0.8	0.10
American Majors	21.8	23.2●	-0.4	2.59
Small Co's	30.8	32.8	-0.1	2.08
Japan Technology	83.7	88.0	-0.6	0.10
International Income	49.7	53.1	..	6.58
Exempt	439.9	470.8	..	1.09
UK General	23.7	25.3	+0.3	5.10
ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TRUSTS				
Allied Dunbar Centre Swindon SN1 1EL				
0793 613085 & 0793 28291				
First Trust	188.2	200.4	-0.4	3.82
Growth & Income	111.3	118.5	..	4.02
Capital Trust	197.4	210.2	-0.2	3.26
Balanced	301.2	320.8●	-0.7	3.83
Accum Trust	440.1	468.7	-0.5	3.84
American Income	28.7	30.6	-0.1	4.36
High Income Tst	201.5	214.6	..	5.36
Equity Income	111.0	118.2 o	+0.1	5.74
High Yield	117.6	125.4	+0.2	6.01
Glort Seas Trust	78.1	83.1	+0.1	0.83
International	88.6	78.9	-0.2	1.75
Japan Fund	69.3	70.8●	-0.6	0.01
Pacific Trust	117.6	125.2●	-0.5	0.04
Amer Sml Cos	80.5	84.4	+0.1	1.55
Seas Of Amer Tst	183.7	195.6●	-0.1	1.88
Aid Asset Value	181.0	192.7●	-0.9	3.24
Gilt Growth	93.5	99.5	+0.2	9.67
Smaller Co's	100.8	107.4	+0.3	2.86
2nd Smaller Co's	131.8	140.4	..	2.86
Recovery Trust	83.5	87.9	-0.1	2.67
Med Min & Energy	77.7	82.7	..	2.41
O'seas Earnings	154.0	164.0●	+0.3	3.62
Technology Tst	93.3	99.7	..	1.48
Income Exempt	99.6	106.0 c	-2.4	6.72
Exempt Smaller Co's	182.3	193.2	+0.1	3.24
USA Exempt Trust	288.3	305.5	+0.2	1.19
ARMSTRONG SECURITIES				
131, Finsbury Pavement, London EC2A 1AY				
01-628 5678 01-280 8540/1/2/3				
Capital Growth Inc	48.3	51.6●	-0.1	2.06
Do Accum	54.0	57.7●	-0.1	2.06
Eastern & Intl	94.5	101.1	-0.7	2.00
Do 6% Withdrawal	52.1	55.7	+0.2	2.00
Finance & Property	51.1	54.5	-0.1	2.66
Gilt & Fixed Income	44.6	46.9	..	9.23
Do Accum	72.1	75.8	..	9.21
High Income	84.7	90.1	+0.1	6.34
Do Accum	137.5	147.1	-0.2	6.34
High Yield Income	62.5	66.8●	-0.1	8.67
Do Accum	159.6	170.6●	-0.2	8.67
Int Inc	59.8	63.9	..	6.01
Do Acc	61.0	65.2	..	2.92
Do 5% Withdrwl	58.0	62.0	+0.1	..
Managed Fund	52.8	55.4	..	..
Performance Income	38.8	39.6	..	11.30
Do Accum	81.8	87.4	..	11.30
Smaller Co's Income	108.9	116.6	+0.4	2.66
Do Accum	110.9	118.5	+0.4	2.66
World Penny Share	8.5	9.0	..	1.63
Portfolio Tst UK	95.1	97.4	-0.5	1.90
Portfolio Tst Japan	61.9	64.1	-0.6	0.10
Portfolio Tst US	69.0	71.4	+0.2	1.12
Portfolio Tst Europe	79.5	82.3	+0.6	0.10
Portfolio Tst HK	42.2	43.7	-0.3	0.10
BAILLIE GIFFORD				
3, Glenfinlas St, Edinburgh EH3 6YY				
031-225 2581 (Dealers:031-226 6069)				
Intl Er (22)	343.8	358.6	..	1.41
Japan Ex (43)	241.8	251.9	..	0.34
UK Ex (31)	175.7	183.9●	..	1.49
Pac Basin Intl	319.1	335.9	..	..
Pac Basin UK	147.1	154.9	..	..
BG America	139.6	148.6	+1.0	0.83
BG Energy	182.7	193.3●	+0.7	1.95
BG Income Growth	157.1	167.2●	+0.3	5.39
BG Japan	106.9	113.8	-0.8	..
BG Technology	152.1	161.9	+0.8	2.12
BALTIC TRUST MANAGERS				
25/26 Albemarle Street, London W1X 4AD				
01-491 0235				
American	43.4	46.5	-0.2	4.07
Australian	17.8	18.9	+0.1	0.55
Japan & General	65.0	69.6	-0.8	1.43
High Income	38.4	41.1●	..	9.61
International Trust	63.5	68.0	+1.4	2.88
Income Growth Trust	39.1	41.9	+0.1	4.88
Gilts & Fixed Int	19.5	20.9	..	11.89
Global Markets	29.5	31.6	+0.1	1.44
Special Situations	35.7	38.2	-0.7	2.46
BARCLAYS UNICORN				
Unicorn House, 252, Romford Rd E7				
01-534 5544				
America	73.7	84.3●	-0.1	2.54
Aust Accum	125.7	134.7●	+1.2	1.53
Do Income	89.5	95.5●	+0.4	1.53
Capital	58.8	62.7	..	3.46
Exempt Trust	350.0	372.3	-0.9	4.24
Extra Income	56.5	60.3	-0.4	8.42
Financial	183.2	205.5●	-0.1	3.64
Fund of Fund Inc	214.4	229.0	+0.3	3.69
500	115.4	122.7	..	4.29
General	50.6	53.1●	..	10.28
Gen & Fixed Inc	109.7	116.7	-0.6	0.48
Japan & Can Inc	110.6	117.8	-0.8	0.48
Do Acc	113.2	120.6	+0.1	2.76
Growth Accum	271.6	289.1	+0.4	3.96
Income Trust	172.5	183.7	-0.1	1.72
Leisure Trust	175.4	186.8	..	3.16
Special Situations	152.6	162.5	..	3.97
Recovery	152.6	162.5	..	3.97
Trustee Fund	94.2	98.8●	-0.2	5.20
Ultra Special Accum	42.5	45.2	..	0.43
Do Income	46.3	49.2	+0.1	0.43
Worldwide Trust	124.2	132.1	+0.1	1.29
'B' Tst Inv Func Acc	282.3	300.3	+0.2	3.80
Do Inc	171.9	182.8	+0.2	3.80
BARING FUND MANAGERS				
PO Box 118, Beckenham, Kent BR3 4XO				
01-658 6022				
Australia	47.5	50.8	-0.1	0.80
Eastern	45.5	48.5	+0.5	1.00
Europe	71.3	75.9●	+0.1	1.10
Growth & Inc	32.7	34.9●	+0.1	1.90
Do Accum	37.0	39.5	..	2.25
First Japan	53.4	57.1	-0.8	0.06
Japan Special	81.4	86.8	-0.7	0.50
Japan Sunrise	54.4	58.0	-0.9	0.50
First Smaller Co's	58.3	62.2●	+0.1	2.08
First European	69.3	73.9	-0.1	2.08
First N Amer	45.7	48.8	-0.3	3.50

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
BARRINGTON MANAGEMENT				
59, Gresham St, London EC2P 2DS				
01-606 4433				
Planned Inv	97.2	103.5	..	2.33
European Inc	65.1	69.5●	..	1.53
Do Accum	78.8	83.9 s	..	1.53
General Inc	127.8	136.1	+0.7	3.59
Do Accum	171.0	181.9	+0.9	3.59
High Yield Inc	166.9	110.5●	+0.2	9.60
Do Accum	164.5	168.8	+0.2	9.60
Japan Income	145.8	154.6	+0.2	0.71
Do Accum	145.8	155.2	-1.2	0.84
N American Inc	93.4	48.9●	-0.2	1.79
Do Accum	88.3	93.4●	-0.2	1.79
Pacific Income	104.9	110.5	-0.8	0.71
Do Accum	91.2	95.9●	+0.1	2.18
Smlr Co's Inc	72.0	76.6 s	+0.1	2.18
BRITANNIA UNIT TRUST				
74-76 Rosebury Avenue London EC2A 1JD				
01-588 2777 Dealing:01-638 0478/9				
Viewpoint 01-675 9999				
Growth Gtl	55.7	58.5	+0.1	1.19
Intl Recovery	83.4	88.8	+0.1	0.83
Smaller Co's	116.6	124.8	+0.3	1.70
UK Growth	31.7	33.8●	+0.1	2.40
Extra Inc	50.7	54.1	..	8.45
Gtt	24.2	25.5●	+0.1	8.56
Inc & Growth	163.9	177.0	+0.2	4.67
Nat High Inc	161.8	172.5	+0.1	9.44
Prop Shares	17.8	18.6●	..	10.50
Commodity	119.5	127.3●	-0.3	3.09
Financial Secs	39.5	41.2●	-0.2	2.57
Gold & Gen	15.5	16.7●	+0.1	0.51
Int Leisure	13.9	14.8●	..	1.08
Prop Shares	48.6	52.1	..	1.59
Low Energy	46.2	49.4	+0.1	0.62
World Tech	39.4	42.0	+0.1	0.62
Amer Growth	31.0	97.1	..	3.48
Amer Income	34.9	39.5	-0.1	6.32
Amer Smaller Co's	22.4	23.9	+0.1	0.59
Aust Growth	39.4	63.4	+0.1	0.87
Euro Smaller	11.8	12.6	..	1.06
Far East	34.3	36.6	+0.1	1.36
Hong Kong Prf	24.8	26.5	+0.1	3.89
Intl Growth	29.5	31.5	..	2.50
Japan Perf	31.1	33.2	..	..
Japan Smaller	10.3	11.0	..	..
Exempt	64.2	67.2	+0.1	4.18
Exempt Market	64.7	67.7	..	4.14
BROWN SHIPLEY				
Founders Court, Lothbury, London EC2R 7HE				
01-606 9833				
Commodity	74.8	79.9	..	4.32
Do Accum	92.4	98.7	..	..
Income Fund (2)	81.3	84.9	..	2.18
Do Accum (3)	93.2	99.6	..	..
Int'l Inc (2)	104.2	108.7	..	2.69
Do Accum (2)	136.8	142.5	..	2.69
Smaller Inc (5)	97.3	103.5	+0.9	2.90
Do Accum (5)	116.0	121.5	+0.2	2.90
CS FUND MANAGERS				
125, High Holborn, London WC1V 6PY				
01-242 1145				
CS Japan Fund	49.7	52.9●	-0.6	0.41
CANNON FUND MANAGERS				
1, Olympic Way, Wembley, HA9 0NB				
01-902 8876				
Growth	229.5	250.5	+1.7	3.68
Income	271.8	291.1	+0.1	5.18
Far East	124.8	132.0	+0.1	0.76
North American	123.1	131.0	-0.5	1.33
CAPEL (JAMES) MANAGEMENT				
100, Old Broad St, London EC2N 1BQ				
01-588 0010				
Capel (S)	285.2	300.3	..	2.10
Income (3)	219.0	230.6	..	5.79
North American (3)	237.2	249.7	..	1.60
CATER ALLEN				
1, King William St, EC4N 7AU				
01-623 8314				
Gilt Trust	98.5	102.8	..	11.81
CENTRAL BOARD OF FINANCE OF CHURCH OF ENG				
27, London Wall EC2 1DB				
01-588 1815				
Inv Fund	357.55	●	..	4.75
Fixed Int	137.35	..	..	10.10
Deposit	..	..	..	11.10
CHARITIES OFFICIAL INVESTMENT FUND				
77, London Wall, London EC2N 1DB				
01-588 1815				
Income	351.11	..	..	5.48
Accum	516.43	..	..	..
CLERICAL MEDICAL UNIT TRUST MANAGERS				
Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0JH				
0272 290566				
General Equity	30.7	32.7	-0.1	..
Equity High Income	33.0	35.2●	..	..
Gilt & Fixed Int Gtt	29.0	27.7	+0.1	..
Index Securities	23.4	24.9	..	..
COUNTY BANK UNIT TRUSTS				
11, Ironside, London EC2V 5EU				
01-726 1999				
Capital Accum	231.4	246.1	+1.7	2.13
Energy Trust	131.7	140.1	+0.5	5.22
Extra Income	131.7	140.1	..	8.29
Financial	125.5	133.5	-0.3	2.86
Gilt Strategy	83.9	89.5●	..	9.86
Growth Investment	206.5	219.5	+0.1	3.31
Income & Growth	33.8	35.9	+0.1	5.63
Japanese & Pacific	88.0	93.6	-0.1	0.02
Irish Amer Growth	90.9	96.7	+0.4	0.44
Intl Recovery	92.7	98.6	+0.6	3.27
Smaller Co's	170.3	181.1	-0.2	2.67
Global Inc Tst	49.1	52.2●	+0.1	6.76

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
EAGLE STAR UNIT TRUST MANAGERS				
East Road, Cheltenham, Gloucester GL53 7LQ				
0242 521311				
UK Balanced Inc	53.6	57.0	-0.1	3.89
Do Accum	58.6	57.3	-0.1	3.89
UK Growth Accum	89.4	94.8	..	2.69
UK High Inc Inc	52.7	56.0	+0.1	6.53
N American Accum	56.5	60.2	-0.2	1.26
Far Eastern Accum	51.9	55.4	-0.1	0.66
European Accum	58.6	61.9	+0.1	1.41
UK Gilt & Fl Inc	47.4	50.8	+0.1	9.86
Do Accum	47.4	50.8	+0.1	9.86
EQUITABLE UNITS ADMINISTRATION				
36, Fountain St, Manchester				
061-236 5685				
Equitable Pelican	61.7	65.7 s	..	5.91
High Income Trust	69.1	82.6●	-0.1	5.65
Gilt & Fixed Int	48.1	52.5	..	9.36
Tst Of Inv Trusts	58.4	60.5	..	1.82
Special Sits Trust	61.2	65.2	..	2.97
Nth Amer Trust	58.0	62.2	..	1.61
Far Eastern Trust	63.1	66.5	-0.5	0.86
EQUITY & LAW				
St. George Hse Corporation St. Coventry CV1 1SD				
0203 553201				
UK Growth Accum	123.1	130.9	-0.1	3.90
Do Income	108.1	115.0	-0.2	3.90
Higher Inc Accum	188.7	201.8	-0.2	5.70
Do Income	156.5	165.2	-0.1	5.69
Gilts/Fixed Accum	91.3	95.8	+0.1	9.03
Do Income	79.9	83.9	+0.1	9.03
Nth Amer Tst Accum	122.1	128.8	-0.5	0.29
Far East Tst Accum	68.1	104.3	-0.5	0.51
Euro Tst Accum	114.8	122.1	+0.2	1.22
General Trust	192.8	205.1	-0.5	2.16
F & C UNIT MANAGEMENT				
1, Laurence Pountney Hill, London EC4R 0BA				
01-623 4680				
American Fund	67.8	72.5	+0.6	0.27
Capital Fund	82.5	88.0	+0.5	0.45
Income Fund	65.6	69.1	+0.1	4.85
Far Eastern Fund	54.4	58.2	+0.4	0.46
Overseas Income	58.5	62.6●	+0.1	4.37
Fixed Interest	53.6	57.0●	+0.1	9.88
Natural Res Fund	43.7	47.3	+0.2	4.20
European Income	52.8	56.5	+0.4	4.56
FIDELITY INTERNATIONAL				
River Walk, Tonbridge, TN9 1DY				
0732 362222				
American	84.8	91.3	..	1.84
Amer Equity Income	30.2	32.5	..	5.33
Amer Special Sits	45.7	48.9	..	2.50
Far East Inc	26.1	27.8●	..	0.80
Gilt & Fixed Int	29.0	30.1●	..	9.70
Growth & Income	76.1	81.5	..	5.23
Japan Special Sits	29.2	29.1	..	..
Japan Trust	89.1	95.2	..	0.48
Managed Int Tst	103.7	111.0	..	4.01
Money Market Equity	58.1	62.0●	..	2.63
Professional Gilt	28.2	30.1	..	9.30
South East Asia Tst	115.1	124.5	..	1.35
Special Sits	..	..	..	..
FLEMING (ROBERT)				
25, Copthall Sq, London EC2A 6AN				
01-638 5858				
American Exempt	2324.84	331.27	..	1.80
Japan Exempt	2285.77	294.02	..	0.17
Pan Property Tst	511.42	7.0	..	7.75
Property Trust	12.067.0	..	..	6.10
FRAMLINGTON MANAGEMENT				
3, London Wall Bldgs, London Wall, London EC2M 5NG				
01-628 5181				
Amer & Gen Income	204.2	217.0	+2.0	0.60
Do Accum	208.4	221.5	+1.9	0.60
Amer Turnaround Inc	194.8	207.0	..	1.28
Do Accum	200.0	212.4	..	1.28
Capital Tst Income	165.2	176.6	..	3.35
Do Accum	166.2	210.2	..	3.35
Conv & Gil Income	77.4	82.3●	+0.2	5.72
Do Accum	101.0	107.4●	+0.2	5.72
Extra Inc Tst Income	124.2	132.0	..	5.46
Do Accum	129.6	138.0	..	5.46
Income Trust	95.6	101.6●	-0.2	5.22
Do Accum	95.6	101.6●	-0.2	5.22
Int Growth Fd Income	143.0	151.0	-0.1	..
Do Accum	157.8	167.7	..	..
Japan & Gen Income	58.4	62.0	-1.7	0.13
Do Accum	58.6	62.5	-1.6	0.13
Monthly Income Fund	59.6	63.2●	-0.6	5.94
Recovery	102.8	109.2	+0.2	2.36
Do Accum	110.4	117.4	-0.2	2.36
FRIENDS PROVIDENT MANAGERS				
Pixham End, Dorking, Surrey				
0306 885055				
FP Equity Dist	168.1	177.5●	-0.7	3.16
Do Accum	277.3	293.4●	-1.2	3.16
FP Fixed Int Dist	103.7	110.9●	+0.5	6.46
Do Accum	115.5	123.5●	+0.5	6.46
Stewardship Dist	141.1	149.3●	+0.4	2.47
Do Accum	145.1	153.5●	+0.4	2.47
FUNDS IN COURT				
Public Trustee, Kingsway, WC2				
01-405 4300				
Capital	291.8	300 6	..	3.16
Gross Inc	127.0	131.4●	..	8.75
High Yield	180.2	182.2	..	8.56
GT UNIT MANAGERS				
68, Fenchurch St, London EC3M 4HJ				
01-283 2575 Dealing 01-628 8431				
UK Cap Fnd Inc	78.2	81.5	+0.3	1.99
Do Accum	107.4	114.5	+0.5	1.99
Income Fund	69.5	70.1	+0.3	6.80
Pension Exempt	127.6	133.7	-3.4	2.46
International	122.2	130.8	+0.1	1.00
US & General	84.0	54.4	-0.4	1.00
Tech & Growth	64.7	69.3	+0.1	1.00
Japan & General	147.4	157.8	-1.0	0.30
Far East & Gen	78.1	75.0●	+0.4	0.79
Eurogrowth Fund	181.9	194.8	+0.1	1.00
Germany Fund	55.8	59.5	+0.1	1.00
GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS				
2, St Mary Axe, London EC3A 8BP				
01-623 1212 Dealing 01-623 5765				
Dealing 01-623 5808				
American Trust	81.6	86.9	-1.5	..
Australasian Trust	17.7	18.8	+0.3	0.45
British Tst Accum	41.2	43.9	+0.1	3.42
Do Dist	40.2	44.9	+0.1	1.28
Commodity Share	85.7	90.3●	+0.3	3.61
European Trust	36.5	40.7	+0.3	1.26
Extra Income Trust	38.5	41.4	-0.2	6.14
Far Eastern Trust	87.1	92.6	..	0.48
Fixed Interest Fund	25.0	25.7	-0.1	10.35
Gilt Trust	128.7	137.0●	+0.4	0.45
Global Fund Accum	122.9	130.8●	+0.4	0.45
Do Dist	122.9	130.8●	+0.4	0.45
Gold Shares Trust	11.7	12.5●	+0.1	2.36
Hedged American	25.7	27.5●	..	0.66
High Income Trust	112.2	119.4	+0.4	5.72
Hong Kong Trust	27.4	29.1	..	0.86
Income Fund	57.8	61.3	+0.2	4.05
In surance Agencies	536.67	57.1	-0.21	2.88
Japan Trust	56.3	59.9	+0.1	0.02
Managed Exempt	223.8	233.0	+0.7	3.68
Oil & Energy Trust	34.7	37.0	+0.1	3.55
Special Sits Trust	74.5	81.4	+0.2	1.30
UK Smlr Co's Rec Tst	54.4	57.9	..	1.22

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
GOVETT (JOHN) UNIT MANAGEMENT				
Shareholder Hse, 77, London Wall, London EC2N 1DA				
01-588 3820				
Intl Growth	68.1	68.4●	+0.1	2.98
Australian Growth	64.8	68.7	+0.1	0.27
American Inc	89.8	95.4	+0.1	0.29
European Growth	147.1	157.5	+0.1	0.29
Dollar & Minerals	39.4	42.1	+0.1	2.95
Japan Growth	89.5	102.2	+0.1	0.06
Pacific Income	38.9	92.0	+0.1	4.39
UK Gilt & Fl Inc	70.7	75.8	+0.1	9.39
GUINNESS MAHON UNIT TRUST MANAGERS				
PO Box 442, 32 St Mary-at-Hill London EC3P 3AJ				
0203 553201				
High Income	42.7	45.8	-0.1	6.96
N American Trust	104.0	110.5	+0.2	0.80
Recovery	145.5	154.8	+1.8	3.23
Gilt Trust	97.0	38.3●	..	9.91
St Vincent Inc	78.8	79.3	+0.1	6.48
St Vincent Int Gth	77.4	79.3	+0.1	0.98
Temple Bar Snr Co's	130.55	137.53	..	4.07
HARRIS/S BANK UNIT TRUST MANAGERS				
Premier UT Admin, 5, Rayleigh Rd, Brentwood Essex				
0277 217818				
Hambros Bnkr Co's	95.8	101.9	+0.2	2.54
Hambros N Amer	80.7	84.8●	..	1.11
Hambros Jap & F E	78.2	83.2	-0.2	0.54
Hambros Scandvn	63.5	67.6	..	1.14
Hambros European	78.4	84.8	+0.1	1.20
Hambros Canadian	41.2	44.6●	-0.3	0.69
Hambros Equity Inc	68.2	78.4●	..	5.60
Hambros High Inc	47.4	50.4	+0.1	6.84
Hambros Res Assts	48.1	51.2	-0.1	3.17
HENDERSON ADMINISTRATION				
Premier UT Administration S, Rayleigh Rd, Hutton				
Shipwood Essex				
0277-217288				
Special Sits Inc	105.4	112.5	-0.2	1.12
Do Accum	147.5	157.5	-0.2	1.12
Recovery Trust	91.4	97.1	+0.1	3.02
Capital Growth Inc	49.1	52.5	+0.5	1.45
Do Accum	58.2	62.1	+0.7	1.45
Income Assets	90.8	96.8	..	4.89
Financial Trust	115.5	122.9●	+0.4	4.01
Income & Growth Inc	221.8	236.0●	+0.7	4.01
Do Accum	143.6	153.5	+0.5	5.34
High Income Trust	124.8	132.8	+0.4	5.80
Extra Income	83.0	88.8	+0.3	8.57
Smaller Cos Inc	83.0	88.8	+0.3	8.57
Prof & Gth	44.6	47.8●	+0.1	10.82
Gilt Trust	92.1	98.4	+0.1	10.22
Retail Interest Trust	50.6	54.2●	+0.1	10.22
Global Heathcare	58.1	58.7	..	0.02
Global Tech	97.5	103.6 c	+0.2	1.70
Gold	41.0	43.8	+0.2	0.51
International	132.2	140.1	+0.2	0.71
Far East Inc	89.7	95.9	+0.1	1.52
Worldwide (S)	297.7	313.4	+1.7	3.97
Australian	67.4	81.1	+0.2	0.27
European	172.2	184.3	+0.2	0.73
Japan Smaller Cos	83.0	87.9	+0.2	1.33
Japan Trust	94.7	100.9	+0.6	0.03
Japan Special Sits	93.2	99.1	-1.9	0.02
Pacific Smaller Cos	69.3	73.8	..	1.15
Singapore & Malay	24.8	26.5	-0.1	3.72
North American	139.1	139.8	+0.8	0.02
Amer Smaller Cos	48.2	51.4	+0.1	2.36
Amer Recovery Trust	112.7	121.2●	+0.8	1.48
High Income Exempt	99.5	104.7●	+0.1	5.94
Smaller Cos Exempt	97.1	102.2●	..	2.70
Euro Exempt (S)	92.0	98.6	-1.4	1.37
Recovery Exempt (S)	97.6	91.7●	+0.5	1.48
N Amer	87.5	93.8	+0.4	0.42
Global Tech Ex (S)	74.2	79.1	..	0.02
Pacific Exempt (S)	141.6	149.1●	+0.4	1.88
HILL SAMUEL UNIT TRUST MANAGERS				
45, Beech St, EC2P 2LX				
01-628 8011				
British Trust Units	450.1	478.9●	+4.1	3.38
Capital Trust Units	84.1	89.5	+0.2	2.64
Dollar Trust Units	166.7	177.4	+0.4	2.92
European Trust	87.7	93.2	+0.2	2.89
Far East Trust	82.2	88.1●	-0.2	2.01
Financial Trust	298.8	319.0	..	2.99
Gilt Fixed Int Inc	27.4	29.5●	..	10.18
Do Growth	27.4	29.5●	..	10.18
High Yield Trust	51.6	54.9●	+0.1	6.36
Income Trust	67.9	71.3	+1.3	5.32
International	100.9	108.4	+0.1	3.10
Japan Tech Tst	28.8	30.7 c	+0.3	0.48
Natural Resources	28.5	30.4	+0.1	2.56
Security Trust	154.5	164.4	..	3.52
Smaller Cos	61.4	65.4	+0.2	2.05
Special Sits	78.3	84.4	+0.3	2.74
IBI FUND MANAGERS				
32, Queen Annes Gate, London SW1H 9AB				
01-222 1000				
IBI Bn & Gt'seds	118.4	117.5●	-0.4	2.00
IBI Eq Income	92.3	53.0	+0.1	9.70
IBI

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FOOTBALL

Judge's decision leaves Swansea teetering on the brink of oblivion

By Clive White

Swansea City Football Club were last night still clinging to a continued existence in the Football League after Mr Justice Harman had wound up the club in the morning at a High Court hearing on a petition by the Inland Revenue over unpaid tax bills of £146,000.

Graham Taylor, the secretary of the Professional Footballers' Association, was involved in trying to revive the corpse and said: "We are trying to help put a package together to satisfy the Receiver."

Sentiment notwithstanding, several fellow League members will query whether a club who have debts totalling £1.4m are worth saving unless a really viable package can be put together. Yesterday morning as the football world learnt of the High Court decision, it jerked a tear only briefly from the eye of sentimental chairmen before feelings of nostalgia were replaced by instincts of survival and the sudden realisation that there was one less mouth to feed.

The feared consequences of the popularly described "domino effect" was tomorrow's problem. Today others could lick their lips in anticipation of possibly another £100,000 to be shared around next season. The League donate around that amount annually to all third division clubs.

The general feeling among those with super league aspirations will be that such a closure merely accelerates the move towards a streamlined league structure. The Football League have stated that there should be natural wastage, meaning that clubs who fold are not replaced. One senior club official reiterated the widely held view yesterday that "there's an awful lot of clubs who ought not to be around."

They seemed less concerned about the dangers of the domino situation when a club goes under owing money to other clubs who themselves are in poor financial straits, and may have borrowed sums against that which is owed to them.

In Swansea's case they owe over £100,000 to Liverpool, a club who could afford to write off such a loss. Others cannot. But even if clubs are not directly touched by a closure, the general gloom may soon descend upon them, too. "Banks will start to look carefully at the situation," Ken Friar, the Arsenal secretary, said. "What can happen at one club can happen at another."

Swansea eventually gave up hope last night of going through with today's third division fixture at the Vetch Field against Walsall, though the midlanders may not be aware of the fact until this morning. If the intended rescue package does not meet with the official Receiver's blessing the club must cease to trade following the High Court decision. As they are unable to fulfil today's fixture there is the danger that they will be expelled from the league and their results this season expunged.

"This is a sad end to a bad year for football," a League official said. "If Swansea go they will be the first club we have lost since Accrington Stanley who ceased to trade in 1962." Other clubs, like Wolverhampton Wanderers, Derby County and Charlton Athletic, have in recent seasons survived by forming new companies. But they never ceased trading.

Swansea are a frightening example of what can happen to those clubs whose fortunes have not kept pace with commendable ambition. Just four years ago this weekend, Swansea led the first division after a sensational rise from the fourth division in four years. With hindsight, it is clear Swansea built too fast, spending £2 million on players and a new stand. Two of the men responsible, Malcolm Struel, the chairman, and John Toshack, the manager, have since left the club, Toshack after two terms as manager.

Players like Ray Kennedy, from Liverpool, were placed on exhorbitant salaries with long contracts. Kennedy earned £800 a week. Because of outstanding debts to Everton and Aston Villa as well as Liverpool, the club were instructed not to "buy" any more players.

The judge was scathing in his criticism of the club's conduct in financial matters. He said: "The company comes before me and throws itself upon the mercy of the court. But this is a bad case in that money has been improperly taken by the company because this was money due to the Inland Revenue and its made a worse case because of the fact that they have continued trading over the last three years." He added: "Nothing encourages me to extend the club any mercy and I shall not grant leave to appeal."

On Thursday the full council rejected a final plea from the club's directors for financial help. The club sold the ground to the council some years ago. John Bond, the current manager who received his notice last night, said: "People will look back over the years and think of all the great players, like Ivor Allchurch and Cliff Jones, who have graced this ground. Now it is going to be turned into shops and houses. It was a political decision and it stinks."



Craft work: Elena Zabrodina, of the Soviet Union, at practice yesterday (Photograph: Ian Stewart)

GYMNASTICS

Soviets aim to vault the spectacular Chinese

By Peter Aykroyd

The Chinese look set to dominate the men's side of the new Kraft Internationals at Wembley today and tomorrow. Their representatives are Zhao Jianguo, the national champion, and Zhou Limin, the consistent Chinese number six. Both are fine exponents of the horizontal bar with routines bordering on the spectacular.

Their main opponents will be the Russians, who field two young gymnasts of note: Ennady Rybin, the national youth champion, and Yuri Kirichenko, the eastern bloc youth champion, both of whom could literally spring a surprise.

The Soviet Union is also likely to lead the women's competition in the person of Elena Zabrodina. Miss Zabrodina is the junior European champion and was in excellent form during training yesterday.

However, the women's section has several eastern bloc gymnasts capable of providing serious opposition. In particular, they are Diana Dudeva, the Bulgarian champion, Alena Drevjaa, the Czech national runner-up, and Eugenia Golea, of Romania, a member of the national team.

Terry Bartlett, the British champion, has flown in specially for this eight-nation tournament which also includes Japan and the United States. He will be joined in the British team by Hayley Price, the British women's champion, and Roman Edwards, Stephanie Micklem and Lisa Lhott, all experienced internationals.

ATHLETICS

Milan club to forgo their fee

By Pat Butcher

Problems of the International Athletes Club cross-country race have been mitigated by the participation of Alberto Cova, 10,000 metres champion, and his colleagues from the Pro Patria Milan Club, who have agreed to race at Alexandra Palace tomorrow for only their air fares to Britain.

The IAC race, which has changed venue twice in the past two years for various reasons has been hit by the television blackout, because of the electricians strike. Race sponsors have pulled around £30,000 out of the event, thus precluding the IAC from paying appearance money.

When Dave Bedford, IAC secretary, telephoned the manager of the Milan team to relay the bad news, the Italians, who are European club champions, agreed to waive their appearance fee. Bedford said: "It's magic, absolutely magic. The Italians evidently need the race before the next European club championships, but it's still great news. Perhaps some of the British guys who pulled out, seeing an Olympic champion prepared to run, will change their minds."

That implied criticism of Dave Lewis and Tim Hutchings is unfair, especially since Bedford had asked Lewis, the English champion, to pay his own expenses from Lancashire to London.

The Italian club also is well sponsored, and is able to pay its own athletes, unlike the British clubs. Other absentees will be Craig Virgin and Mark Nenow from the United States, Christof Herle of West Germany and Vincent Rousseau of Belgium.

The very muddy course will require another sort of magic from Cova and his colleagues if they are to cope with the British challenge of Dave Clarke, Julian Goater, Nat Muir, Allister Hutton and especially Steve Binns, who is back to his superb form of four years ago.

STRIKE HITS GYMNASTICS AND CROSS-COUNTRY EVENTS

Football back on television

By John Goodbody

Football will be back on television in the New Year, but the electricians' strike has blacked out sports events this weekend, causing the postponement of an International Athletes Club cross-country race and a £25,000 loss to the Kraft International Gymnastics tournament.

On a day that showed how crucial television – and its accomplice, sponsorship – are to sport, the Football League yesterday signed a £1.3 million deal for BBC and ITV to share six live matches from January, the live screening of the Milk Cup semi-finals and final and recorded highlights from at best 20 matches.

The Football Association have also negotiated a separate deal with the first live match being the third round tie between Charlton and West Ham on January 5. Subsequent rounds will also be shown live under a contract whose financial details were not revealed by Ted Croker, The FA secretary.

The agreements, concluded at a hotel near Heathrow, follow 15 months of meetings and acrimony. The football authorities had last season rejected a £19.2 million four-year deal but then found their negotiating position weakened by the tragedies last May of Brussels and Bradford.

For the first time for 21 years the football season began in August without television coverage of League matches. The authorities came under increasing pressure from sponsors, wanting to see the clubs and competitions they support on television.

Philip Carter, the chairman of Everton, who led the League's negotiating team, said last night: "We believe that putting games back on the screen will stimulate interest rather than kill it. We are anxious the more positive side of football is shown.

There are only 16 weekends left this season but there will be live action on all but five of them. All live games will be broadcast on a Sunday afternoon with BBC's matches kicking off at 3.05 and ITV's at 2.40. One game, to be shown on ITV, has yet to be decided upon. ITV's The Big Match, in its recorded form, will be shown on Sunday afternoon. BBC's Match of the Day, on the weekends that they have no live coverage, will show recorded highlights on Saturday evening.

But while football was repairing its breach with the broadcasting authorities, events in other sports yesterday demonstrated the danger of relying too heavily on television coverage and attendant sponsorship.

ITV, who have exclusive domestic contracts to screen both athletics and gymnastics, had to tell the organizers of this weekend's events that they could not fulfil their commitments.

The IAC who are organizing Sunday's cross-country competition at Alexandra Palace, North London, immediately postponed the men's elite race until the New Year. HFC Trust, the meeting's sponsors, were originally putting £35,000 into the event but because of the loss of television coverage they are now withholding half the money.

Dave Bedford, secretary of the IAC, said the loss of a further £12,000 in secondary sponsorship added to their financial difficulties. As a result, Bedford said, the IAC were unable to pay the appearance money, travelling costs and accommodation of leading athletes, including the former world cross-country champion Craig Virgin, of the United States.

Although tomorrow's feature race is off, the rest of the programme will go ahead, including the women's Five Nation Championship and the men's team international between England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.

The British Amateur Gymnastics Association will lose £25,000 on staging the two-day Kraft International event at Wembley because the sponsors will require their agreement to be renegotiated.

Live matches

January 5: Charlton v West Ham (FA Cup third round), 3.05pm, BBC. January 12: Watford v Liverpool, 3.05, BBC. January 26: FA Cup fourth round, ITV. February 2: West Ham v Manchester United, 2.40, ITV. February 9: Liverpool v Manchester United, 3.05, BBC. February 12: Milk Cup semi-final first leg, BBC. February 16: FA Cup fifth round, BBC. March 2: Tottenham v Liverpool, 3.05, BBC. March 5: Milk Cup semi-final second leg, ITV. March 9: FA Cup sixth round, ITV. March 16: Everton v Chelsea, 2.40, ITV. April 20: Milk Cup final. May 10: FA Cup final.

HOCKEY

England invited to Spain

By Sydney Friskin

England have been invited to play a match against Spain early in September as part of Spain's preparation for the World Cup tournament in London from October 4 to 19. Colin Whalley, the England manager, said yesterday that as Spain are not in England's group he was interested in taking up their offer.

The England squad, most of whom will play for Britain in the Champions Trophy tournament at Karachi next April, will be given a short rest in May and June, but Whalley added that he might consider Pakistan's proposal to play against England in June after Pakistan complete their own matches against The Netherlands in Amsterdam. There is also a possibility of England playing a couple of matches against Belgium to round off a training weekend at Bisham Abbey at the end of August.

On the domestic front most of the leagues have suspended activity during the festive season but the Pizza London League have decided to carry on. Peter Abreo who has distinguished himself as an inside forward is in a new role as full back for Blackheath in their premier division match against Richmmond today.

Bleackheath, still unbeaten and second on the table to Southgate, have had to make adjustments because of the loss of a few of their defenders who have left the club. They have called on Paul Constantine from their third eleven to keep goal in place of Mohan Kalsi who is now in The Netherlands. His brother Nim will be a live force in their attack.

But Blackheath can expect a hard fight from Richmond, the home side, who have several players from the county championship-winning Surrey team: Rogers, the goalkeeper, Daubeny, Gallimore, Wells, Atkinson and Diamond. Guildford who recently beat Richmond 2-1 are hoping to raise their position from fourteenth in the league when they play at home to Beckenham.

Many eyes are on Surbiton, now fifth on the table, a improving with every outing. They are at home to Dulwich with an attractive side which includes Guy Marchant from the Surrey side at half back, David Francis as sweeper and Peter Bowen, their captain and centre forward.

United back on edge of darkness

By Hugh Taylor

Dundee United have emerged so resolutely from the shadow cast by their poor form of the early season that the odds of 50-1 of them winning the league championship have fallen to 6-1.

A win over Aberdeen, the leaders of the premier division, at Tannadice this afternoon would put them in an even stronger position to repeat their title-winning feat of 1982-83. But despite their revival and Aberdeen's sorry away record, United's ability to take two points is in question. Although they play the most thoughtful football in the country, they lack finishing power. And today they find themselves beset by injuries.

Aberdeen brought relief to their worried supporters last Saturday by regaining zest and power to end Hibernian's unbeaten run and they should gain at least a point.

Rangers have been just as disappointing away from home as Aberdeen, and they will have to improve today on their record if they are to remain among the contenders for the title. They will be heartened by the return after a lengthy absence through injury of their captain, Paterson, who faces old colleagues in Hibernian at Easter Road.

A draw is a likely outcome as Hibernian will be without their sprightly attacker, Durie, who was ordered off at Pittodrie. Kane, another promising young forward, may be the deputy.

Celtic, who have fielded their elegant midfield player, Burns, at left back for most of the season, continue with the more recent experiment of making the aggressive Grant, Burns's defensive partner. They should be too strong at Parkhead for Motherwell, who are under-strength because of injury and suspension.

St Mirren, who have been under a cloud since losing in Europe, will be looking back to August 10 as they run out at Love Street to face Heart of Midlothian. That summer afternoon they beat Hearts 6-2 at Tynecastle, raising hopes that this was going to be a special season in Paisley. But Hearts have improved to such an extent that they occupy second position of the league table, having gone 11 matches without defeat. They are playing well enough to extend that number to 12.

The improving Dundee should take a point at least from Clydebank at Kilbowie Park.

Martin ready to risk World Cup ambition

By David Powell

West Ham United have the chance today to step in between Manchester United and Liverpool in the championship race and make an impression on the club record book in the process. They visit Luton Town, one of only three teams to beat them in the League this season, where by avoiding defeat they would equal the sequence of 18 matches unbeaten achieved by their 1980-81 second division title winning side.

Victory would not only put them ahead of Liverpool, should the Merseysiders falter against Newcastle United, it would also be the most consecutive League away win, another club record. Such is the spirit of enthusiasm at Upton Park these days that their central defender, Alvin Martin, announced yesterday that he is prepared to risk his World Cup chances with England to keep the West Ham boat buoyant.

Martin has been troubled all year with a swelling behind his knee which flared up shortly before England's qualifying match against Northern Ireland last month when, as a member of the squad, he was in contention for a place. Martin is now prepared to delay the operation which would have cost him a month of the season, saying: "Things are going so well I just want to keep playing and playing. Unless it proves troublesome in the meantime I will delay the operation until after Mexico."

Provided Devonshire recovers from a cold West Ham will be unchanged for the third successive match but their fellow Londoners, Arsenal, continue to ring the changes. Having introduced Quinn and Keown for their debuts in a 2–0 victory over Liverpool at Highbury last Saturday, Don Howe, the Arsenal manager, brings a third 19-year-old into the cauldron of Old Trafford. Gus Caesar, a right back, replaces Anderson for a match which Arsenal need to win if they are to retain any title aspirations.

Howe's success with young talent this season (Quinn scored against Liverpool) has encouraged him to continue his experiments. "I've put several youngsters in this season (Hayes and Rocastle are two others) and, not one has let the team," Howe said. "Gus is a very fast player, one of the quickest in the club."

As with Martin at West Ham, Speedie, of Chelsea, is reluctant to miss any of the action. Concussed and taken to hospital on Tuesday as his team colleagues battled on towards Wembley and a place in the Full Members Cup final, he is determined to line up at Birmingham City. Following their win over Sheffield Wednesday last Saturday Chelsea should find easy pickings at St Andrew's against opponents who have scored only one goal, a penalty, from their last eight games.

Birmingham's suffering supporters will no doubt be hoping that the arrival in the week of a new chairman, Ken Wheldon, will breath new life into the club. The manager, Ron Saunders, has never needed good results like he does now.

TODAY'S TEAM NEWS

First division

Birmingham v Chelsea
Speedie, concussed against Oxford on Tuesday, is in Chelsea's squad of 13; Murphy has recovered from a shin injury and returns for the suspended Jones. Birmingham, with only one point from their last 11 games, have Armstrong back after a hamstring strain but Geddis is injured.

Coventry v Everton
Van den Hauwe and Sheedy return for Everton, replacing Marshall, who has a thigh strain, and Richardson, who will be substitute, Kilcline, out for six weeks with damaged ankle ligaments, returns for Coventry in place of McGrath.

Liverpool v Newcastle
With Molby suffering from a mouth infection, Liverpool have delayed naming their squad. Newcastle are set to recall the midfield player, Gascoigne, who has missed the last three games with an ankle injury.

Luton v West Ham
Devonshire missed training with a heavy cold yesterday and faces a fitness test as West Ham attempt to equal their club record of 18 League games undefeated; otherwise they will be unchanged. Hill returns to Luton's 13-man squad, following a thigh injury.

Man U v Arsenal
Bailey, whose leg injury caused him to miss last Saturday's match at Aston Villa, displaces Turner in goal. United's 12 includes Albiston, their left back, who is fit again after missing six games. Caesar, aged 19, will make his Arsenal debut at right back; two more 19-year-olds, Quinn and Keown, are expected to retain their places after making their debuts against Liverpool last Saturday.

Sheff W v Man C
Magson, back on loan from Newcastle after building his reputation with Wednesday, is named in their squad of 15. City await a fitness check on McCarthy, whose ankle injury has prevented him training this week, but have added Wilson and McIlroy to their squad.

Tottenham v Ipswich
Hoddle and Waddle, who have missed Tottenham's last two matches, return to a squad of 14; Hoddle will play but Galvin misses his second consecutive match with a shin injury. D'Avray, the Ipswich forward, has not yet recovered from a groin injury; Atkins and Zondervan, who have also been injured, return to a squad of 15.

Second division

Wimbledon v Sheff U
Wise, a 19-year-old midfield player, may make his second appearance for Wimbledon, who will give fitness tests to Downes and Martin. Sheffield name a squad of 14 in which Burridge, the goalkeeper, is doubtful; Tomlinson stands by.

Third division

Reading v Plymouth
Plymouth, who have risen from twelfth to second in two months, are unchanged. Reading have Richardson, a defender, and Williams, a midfield player, recovered from injury but they have not been added to the leaders' unchanged squad.

SIDELINES
Gordon Allan

Creating a bit of humanity

I am a voracious reader of profiles and interviews in newspapers, and if it comes to light that the subject is into sport my opinion of him goes up. An interest in sport makes a man – or woman – seems more human.

From that you can deduce the kind of things, some outwardly trivial, that I look for. I do not give one straw, never mind two, whether a man has been president of the Oxford Union or president of the United States, and his political allegiance means no more to me than the fact that he likes his steaks well done.

I skip these minor concerns and get down as quickly as possible to the second half of the article, where in my experience most of the really revealing information is to be found – his parentage, what if anything he did at school, his early ambitions, his first job, where he fought in the war, whether he has a wife, his domestic habits, clues to his temperament, books written, musical preferences, pets kept, general prejudices, peculiarities and pastimes.

Of pastimes in the sporting sense there may be none, in which case I will finish the article feeling disappointed. He may even put me off him completely by saying that he loathes sport and gets his exercise from gardening, a topic that leaves me unmoved.

But if he mentions that he once played for Shrewsbury Town reserves, or always has 18 holes at Gleneagles when he is up in that direction, or solves his business problems over a game of billiards, or never misses an international at Twickenham, then he has me on his side straightaway, whatever his other failings.

Sir Alfred Ayer is a philosopher, but he is also a follower of Tottenham Hotspur, which is a fact more likely to make you warm to him than his philosophy. And who can tell how much his philosophy has been helped by his observation of Tottenham over the years? Why, if he had followed some team like Hartlepool United or Crewe Alexandra, he might have been granted even profounder insights.

Harold Pinter's plays have puzzled a few people, but there is nothing obscure about his devotion to cricket. And just as following Tottenham may have influenced Ayer's speculations, so the mysteries of spin bowling may have sent Pinter along devious ways in dialogue.

I would also be encouraged to learn that a footballer was into philosophy or a cricketer into modern drama, but that is beside the point here, which is that one touch of sport can made the whole world kin.

RUGBY UNION

Trophy and wooden spoon day

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

"The team regard this as a championship, we have worked from the word go on that basis." Thus Alan Davies, coach to the Midland division who meet London, the other unbeaten side in the divisional championship, sponsored by Thorn EMI, at Northampton today to decide the destiny of the handsome trophy presented by the sponsors.

"It could hardly be regarded as a trial because, for one thing, trials are not organized, this championship clearly is," Davies, coach to the successful Nottingham club, adds: which may provide a clue as to why these two sides have remained unbeaten while the South and South-West and the North, with so many talented players, contest only the wooden spoon at Bristol.

Both the Midlands and London have called upon a solid core of experience in the realms of selection, organization and game planning: the North may have fallen over their own feet in terms of selection while the South-West, hit hard by injuries, have found the well of talent not quite so deep as they might have wished.

Roger Uttley, London's coach, is the first to pay tribute to the help he has had from selectors, Alan Black, his predecessor, and Glenn Robertson, the assistant coach. "I've had a great time since September; the school (the teaches at Harrow) has been unbeaten and London are the same.

"I've got players who have got over their relief at making it in first-class football, who know what you have to do to stay there and are now working out the next steps. Experience is crucial and the next step is linking it together. I've got people like the 'Judge' (Rendall), Colcough and Cooke in the pack, good players like Salmon, Lozowski and Davies behind, all I have to do is add a little organization.

Davies rebuts criticism that the Midlands have played too tight a game: "We have played it in a style I like, using the strengths of the individuals at our disposal. We are not going to throw the ball around in the backs if we can shove the opposition over their own line, but all the players have been involved in the games.

"I thought the players got bored last Saturday (against the South West) because our plan was going so well. They let the Bath players into the game which was a mistake. Today the packs could easily cancel each other out, so the way the backs play will be significant.

There is obvious respect between the two sides, both of whom have achieved the common identity lacking in the other two divisions. For all that it is hard to see the selectors overlooking the disparate claims of the four half backs at Bristol: of Simms and Halliday, Underwood, Hall, Redman, Dooley, Winterbottom and others who must come into their plans which will be unveiled on December 30 when the team to play Wales is announced.

One of the South-West replacements, Teague, is returning to his old club, Gloucester, from Cardiff, whom he joined at the beginning of the season. He has played most of his first-team games for the Welsh club at flanker but Gloucester will look at him as a No8, the position in which he was capped during the summer tour of New Zealand.

MIDLAND DIVISION: S Hodgkinson (Nottingham); S Holdstock (Nottingham), G Hartley (Nottingham), P Dodge (Leicester), J Goodwin (Moseley), L Cusworth (Leicester), S Thomas (Coventry); L Johnson (Coventry), S Brain (Coventry), G Pearce (Northampton), P Cook (Nottingham), N Mantell (Nottingham, captain), V Cannon (Northampton), G Rees (Nottingham), G Robbins (Coventry).
LONDON DIVISION (Wasps unless stated): H Davies; S Smith, R Lozowski, J Salmon (Harlequins), M Bailey (Cambridge University); S Smith (Richmond), S Bates; P Rendall, A Simmons, J Probyn, K Moss, C Pinnegar, M Colclough (Swansea), D Cooke (Harlequins, captain), P Jackson (Harlequins).
Referee: S Trevithick (Cornwall).
SOUTH AND SOUTH-WEST DIVISION (Bath unless stated): C Martin; R Knibbs (Bristol), J Palmer, S Halliday, B Trevaskis; S Barnes, R Hill; M Preedy (Gloucester), K Bogira (Bristol), R Pascall (Gloucester), J Hall, J Orwin (Gloucester), N Redman R Spurrell (captain), D Egerton.
NORTHERN DIVISION: S Langford (Orrell); M Harrison (Wakefield), J Buckton (Saracens), K Simms (Nottingham), N Melville (Wasps, captain); P Huntsman (Headingley), N Hitchen (Orrell), D Southern (Orrell), S Hodgson (Vale of Lune), J Syddall (Waterloo), W Dooley (Preston Grasshoppers), P Winterbottom (Headingley), P Johnston (West Hartlepool).
Referee: R Quittenton (London).

TODAY'S TEAM NEWS

London Welsh v London Irish
The Irish lose MacNeill, McCall and Kennedy to a national squad weekend, O'Donnell, their captain, moving to full back, which many regard as his better position. McGauley and McDonagh join the pack against a Welsh team unchanged from that beaten narrowly by Cardiff.

Leicester v Bristol
Kevin Williams plays on Leicester's left wing for the first time since October, when he damaged a knee. Davidson and Richards return to the pack against a Bristol side unchanged from that which beat Moseley and includes Harding at scrum half for a John Smith's merit table A game.

Liverpool v Rosslyn Park
First meeting of the clubs since 1930 (when Park won) with Liverpool hoping to reverse narrow merit table B defeats against Saracens and Coventry. Park bring former colt Foulds into the second row in the absence of Ripley, on holiday, and have Jermyn back at stand-off half.

Coventry v Gloucester
Coventry strengthen their pack in the hope of completing a prized double against Gloucester. Gary Smith (prop), Travers and Trumper (back row) play against a side showing five changes from that which beat Launceston, four of them in the pack and Tim Smith at full back.

Bath v Harlequins
Two clubs in search of teams meet in a merit table A game, the first of three successive table matches for Harlequins, who have 21 players in representative teams or injured. Bath give 10 players to their divisional side and have brought Lyle, aged 38, out of retirement to play in the back row.

Blackheath v Richmond
Blackheath, without Colyer and Munday, give Hughes the chance to make his debut at stand-off half in this merit table B game. Hughes, a London University student from Fylde, is joined in the side by Purchase and James against a Richmond team which includes Biddell, the Cambridge Blue, at lock.

Leslie earns promotion

By Ian McLauchlan

David Leslie's steady march towards Scotland colours continues this week as he is promoted to lead the North and Midlands in their last match of the inter-district championship. They meet Glasgow in Aberdeen.

Neither side has won a game this year but the North did end their long run of defeats against Glasgow last season. They will hope to continue this trend today. The national selectors will be interested to watch also the form of Gray and Parker, the Glasgow locks, as well as John Beattie, Leslie's opposite number, all of whom have a distinct chance of national recognition this year. The only thing the other players have at stake is pride and, of course, that most unwanted of prizes, the wooden spoon.

Edinburgh travel to London to meet the Anglo-Scots at Richmond. The home side have won both their games this far, but the capital side lost to the South last Saturday. Edinburgh drop Rafferty, their courageous flank forward, and bring Finlay Calder in to join this twin, Jim, and older brother John, in the family back row.

The Anglos won both their games last weekend against North and Midlands and Glasgow through the power of their forwards, but will find Edinburgh a different proposition. With more than half of their side trial hopefuls, the visitors will want to return to winning ways.

Brewster and Rowan against Milne and Sole in the front row. Millar facing Campbell-Lamerton in the line-out and Mackin versus the Calders in the loose, all add to the interest in this game. Behind the scrum Wylie and the fast-improving Cramb are in opposition, while both Scott and the Johnston brothers will want to improve and consolidate their positions in the trial.

Roy Laidlaw has been restored to scrum half for the South of Scotland for their last inter-district championship match of the season at Headingley on December 28. Laidlaw replaces Hunter who was Scotland's scrum half last year. The only other change to the team is the inclusion of flanker Eric Paxton, the flank forward of Kelso, who comes in for Jeffrey, his injured teammate.

Collegians may bring down the high flyers

By George Ace

Ballymena, flying high at present, take on the youthful but improving Collegians side at Deramore this afternoon in what should prove the best of several interesting clashes in Ulster rugby today.

Bangor, celebrating their centenary year, won the first senior competition of the season, the Bass Boston Cup, by defeating Instonians in mid-week at Upritchard Park. Terry McMaster, the B International right wing, notched two tries. They entertain a strong St Mary's side, while North meet Old Belvedere.

The Australian Schools, with two resounding victories over Scottish and the South of Scotland XV open their four-match Irish schedule against Leinster next Saturday in Dublin, prior to their New Year's Day meeting with Irish Schools at Ravenhill. They remain in Ulster for a game against Ulster Schools (January 4) before travelling south for a match against Munster Schools (January 8).

RUGBY LEAGUE

Fulham sign wing from Wigan

By Keith Macklin

Fulham yesterday moved in quickly to sign Gary Henley-Smith, the Wigan wing and New Zealand international sprinter, who has been released to make way for South African signings. He is expected to turn out for Fulham in tomorrow's home game with Runcorn Highfield.

The second semi-final of the John Player Special Trophy will take place this afternoon at Headingley. Competing for the right to meet Wigan in the final on January 11 are Hull Kingston Rovers, the holders of the trophy, and St Helens, who beat Rovers in last year's premiership final.

Alex Murphy, the new St Helens manager, has already led teams to John Players success, with Warrington twice and Wigan once. Although his new team stumbled against lowly Dancaster, they were brilliant in trouncing Hull in the quarter final, and Rovers will need to improve on their recent form to retain the trophy. Both sides expect to be at full strength, although Burton has a slight injury problem which will require a final test this morning before Rovers set off for Headingley.

In tomorrow's league games, Wigan travel to Halifax for a rearranged game. Halifax beat Leeds last Sunday and are in excellent form, but Wigan are seemingly unbeatable at the moment. A problem for Wigan is the thigh injury of Steve Ella, their brilliant Australian stand-off half who scored in 11 consecutive matches. Widnes travel to York without Lydon and George, their injured backs, and Currier is on the wing.

In the second division Steve Halliwell, the Australian centre returns for Leigh for the home game with Carlisle. Rochdale Hornets, seeking to bounce back into promotion contention against Hunslet after last week's defeat at Workington, have Harcombe and Fairhurst back after injury.

Transfer costs Red Star league points

Belgrade (AFP) – Red Star Belgrade yesterday had two points deducted from their total in the Yugoslav league, for fielding an ineligible player.

Red Star, in second place, two points behind the leaders, Partizan Belgrade, when the championship reached the winter break on December 8, ran into trouble at the end of October when the Yugoslav federation cancelled their acquisition of Mijalem Zjajo, because he still had two years of his contract to run with the second division club, Iskra Butonjo.

One week later, the federation said the result of the league match against Vojvodina Novi Sad, in which Zjajo played, would stand. Now UEFA, could look again at Red Star's 4-2 Cup Winners' Cup first round win over the Swiss side, Aarau. Zjajo played one half of the October 2 second leg in Switzerland, and UEFA allowed the 2-2 result to stand, after following the Yugoslav federation's conclusion that the transfer was valid before being cancelled on October 25.

Red Star are through to the Cup Winners' Cup quarter-finals. Zjajo has been banned for a year, as have members of the federation committee who endorsed the move.

Pickering out at Lincoln

Lincoln City have dismissed their manager, John Pickering and his assistant, Phil Boersma. George Kerr takes over and he was in charge of his first training session yesterday afternoon.

The Lincoln chairman, John Reames said that the board had decided to take action now, to stop the team's dismal run of results. Lincoln have not won a League match since October 2 and have slumped from seventh to the third division relegation zone. They have lost 10 of their last 11 games.

Pickering, who only succeeded Colin Murphy at Sincil Bank at the start of the season, had to rebuild a side torn apart by summer transfers. His task was made harder by a series of injuries to key men. Reames said: "We have a situation which needs rectifying and, whether it is football or any other business, you have to make decisions from a personal point of view. Speaking about Pickering, he said: "A nicer guy you couldn't meet.

Last night's results

FIRST DIVISION: Southampton 3, Nottingham Forest 1.
SECOND DIVISION: Bradford City 3, Brighton 2; Shrewsbury Town 2, Blackburn Rovers 0.
THIRD DIVISION: Chesterfield 3, Cardiff City 4; Darlington 3, Gillingham 2; York City 0, Bury 0.
FOURTH DIVISION: Cambridge United 3, Tranmere Rovers 2; Colchester United 5, Wrexham 2; Crewe Alexandra 0, Hartlepool United 0; Stockport County 1, Burnley 1.

TENNIS

Westphal unable to repeat his Davis Cup escape act

From Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent, Munich

Mats Wilander gave Sweden a 1-0 lead over West Germany in the Davis Cup final by beating Michael Westphal 6-3, 6-4, 10-8, here yesterday. There was never much genuine prospect that Westphal would be good enough to give Germany the bonus of an early form upset.

His defeat meant that Boris Becker, the Wimbledon champion, had to go on court against the champion of Australia, Stefan Edberg, knowing that another German defeat would probably be terminal. There was little hope of Westphal beating Edberg on the last day.

Wilander's win should have been even more straightforward. A single break of service gave him each of the first two sets and, in the third, a break to 3-2 seemed to have decided the match: but when Wilander was servingat 4-3 and 30-15 he muffed the easiest backhand volleys. He was not to win another point in that game and, in the next, Westphal served two aces and held his service to love.

Thus was battle eventually joined and Wilander, like most other people on the premises, doubtless recalled that Westphal had come back to win from a similar position when playing Tomas Smid, of Czechoslovakia, in a semi-final rubber. But on this occasion Westphal's recovery was belated, largely because Wilander is a much better player than Smid.

Wilander won the last three games of the match at a cost of only three points. On the way he had a lucky winner off the net cord that he obviously did not need. He broke through for 9-8 and then held his service to love for the match, which lasted for two hours and 24 minutes.

Wilander, champion of France, is ranked as 48 places higher than Westphal and it always showed. He was the more competent and tidy of the two and did not vary his pace much, leaving Westphal to create his own speed of shot. Westphal needed to attack but in this respect he was inhibited by recurrent winning lobs which Wilander seemed to measure to an inch.

Wilander served 12 aces and, without having Westphal's power, was the more consistent server. Westphal produced 19 aces and seven double-faults. For two sets Westphal tried to play at a faster pace than he could manage soundly. Later he became a little more discrete and therefore improved his third set. The German's task was frustrating because, as he said later: "My game is to play from the baseline; but from the baseline he plays a little bit better. So I had to do something and I missed a few shots".

Westphal, in fact, missed a lot of shots, many of them easy. He tended to mis-hit them and was prone to odd moments of absent-mindedness. His usually formidable forehand was erratic on this occasion and his idiosyncratic backhand was always vulnerable. If Westphal could have served aces all the time he might have had a chance. As it was, his total of 19 was impressive, but not sufficient for his purpose.

The final is being played in the one-time Olympic basketball arena. There is room for more than 30,000 spectators and yesterday's crowd cannot have been far short of that figure. They gave the Germans noisy support which took its most irritating form, a foghorn.

The odd feature of the applause was that its timing seemed calculated rather than spontaneous. After a rally had been decided there was usually a long pause but then, just as one player or the other was about to serve, the crowd began to clap and roar for no apparent reason. This was rather like an echo without a source.

The crowd included Randy Gregson, the president of the United States Tennis Association, who confesses that he is slightly embarrassed at the absence of his national team. This is the sixth time two European nations have contested the final or, in the old days, the challenge round. Britain were involved in thof those five earlier all-European contests. But that, sadly, was along time ago.

● ADELAIDE: The South African qualifiers, Christo Steyn and Eddie Edwards, reached the semi-finals of the South Australian Open championship here yesterday (Reuter reports). Steyn, ranked 107th in the world, beat the top-seed, John Fitzgerald, of Australia, 3-6, 7-6, 6-2 and will now play his 197th ranked compatriot who defeated the American, Leif Shiras, 6-2, 6-2. The other semi-final will be an all-Australian affair between Wally Masur and Peter Doohan.



Iron grip: Wilander keeps his racket and Westphal under perfect control

OLYMPIC GAMES

S African mission 'irrelevant'

Addis Ababa (AFP) – The Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa (ANOCA) has appealed to the international olympic committee not to send a mission to South Africa to look into the status of sport there. ANOCA closed their first general assembly with a debate on racial discrimination in sport, during which the South African Non-Racial Olympic Committee (SANROC) said such a mission was irrelevant until apartheid had been dismantled in that country.

Sam Ramsamy, the SANROC chairman, said the Pretoria regime had more than 300 laws to make apartheid work and that segregation in sport there was an indisputable reality.

The assembly also called on both African and other nations to maintain the ban on sporting links with Pretoria and on sponsors to desist from allowing South Africa to circumvent the boycott against it.

GOLF

Hearing aid can end Palmer's lean spell

From Mitchell Platts, Montego Bay, Jamaica

Golfers, like all stars, have their vanity and Arnold Palmer is no different. For several seasons one of the most legendary figures in the history of the game has refused to acknowledge that a loss of hearing has contributed to his failing to reach the lofty heights he still expects from himself.

In the Mazda Champions tournament which started on the Tryall course here yesterday, Palmer, aged 56, has elected to dispense with his vanity by wearing a hearing aid in each ear. If the experiment proves successful then Palmer could start winning on a regular basis again on the US PGA Seniors' tour next season. His solitary victory in 1985 came in the Senior Tournament Players' Championship and he finished eleventh in the rankings list.

"It's nice to be able to hear myself playing again", Palmer says. Golfers can detect much about their game by hearing their shots and, more importantly, good hearing leads to better balance, which is of the utmost importance in swinging the club as well as putting. Even so there is a reluctance among golfers to accept such artificial aids. Many observers believe that Nicklaus would do himself a considerable favour by wearing spectacles. He has not seen his shot finish on the fairways for some time.

Palmer is one of the main reasons why the Seniors' tour is flourishing but he has been pushed into the shadows by Thomson, the winner of nine tournaments this year.

The Mazda Champions might provide a clue as to whether Palmer will meet the challenge with the same vigour and aggression which earned for him four US Masters, two British Opens and one US Open in a spectacular career. With 112 tour victories between them Palmer and JoAnne Carner set out as the crowd's favourites if not the tournament favourites, who are Nancy Lopez, and Thomson.

IN BRIEF

Two-year ban for road race official

Ian Champion, an official in the London to Brighton road race in October, has been banned for two years. Two South African athletes finished first and second even though South Africans are not permitted to run in international events. Champion was the Road Runners Club official who dealt with entries for the race.

He has been disqualified by the Southern Counties AAA from promoting or organizing any road races on behalf of the club.

The 140-strong field of runners escaped action, following an investigation by the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF), because Champion kept the participation of the two South Africans unannounced. The Southern Counties AAA said yesterday: "According to IAAF rules, all athletes who participated in the race against the South Africans rendered themselves ineligible if they did so knowingly."

SNOOKER: Silvino Francisco, winner of the Dulux British Open tournament last season, has been dropped from the Rest of the World side for the world team championship in Bournemouth next March. The South African loses his place along with Dean O'Kane, of New Zealand, and American Jim Rempe, and they are replaced by Tony Drago (Malta), Sakchai Simngam (Thailand) and Om Prakash Agrawal (India).

● Steve Davis held a 4-3 lead over Dennis Taylor at the end of the first session in their best-of-17 frames final in the Kit Kat break for world champions tournament in Nottingham yesterday.

YACHTING: Next year's Scottish Series organized by the Clyde Cruising Club, is to be sponsored by the McEwan brewery. The series will as usual comprise five races for several classes of yachts and will be based on Tarbet Loch Fyne, from May 22 to 27.

CRICKET: Officialdom hit back yesterday in Melbourne at criticism on the state of the game in Australia by the former Test captain Kim Hughes, who is leading a "rebel" tour in South Africa. The Australian Cricket Board (ACB) chairman Fred Bennett attacked Hughes for "denigrating Australian cricket – the same Australian cricket that provided the many benefits he's enjoyed over the years."

BOWLS: Scottish international Bob Sutherland, joint favourite for the Cleveland Masters title, fought back from a ten-shot deficit to overcome Michael Jackson at Teesside yesterday. Sutherland, who fell behind 1-11 found the inspiration to collect a four and two threes to scramble a 15-12 victory. The other joint favourites, John Leeman, and Tom Buller, also opened with clear cut victories.

TABLE TENNIS: Carl Prean's victory in the Belgian Open has put him back into second place in the English table tennis rankings.

The 18-year-old European junior champion earned more than 400 points for last month's triumph and he followed with a win in Finland.

Desmond Douglas is still No 1 and Lisa Bellinger stands at the top of the women's rankings.

RANKINGS: Men: 1, D Douglas, 2400 pts; 2, C Prean, 1682; 3, A Cooke, 1293; 4, S Andrew, 976; 5, J Souter 783; 6, A Syed 736. Women: 1, L Bellinger, 1374; 2, A Gordon, 1331; 3, J Grundy, 847; 4, F Elliot, 754; 5, K Witt, 666; 6, M Sainsbury, 523.

SKIING

Bell consolidates a fine opening on his way to the top

By Richard Williams

"The trouble with being in a small team," Martin Bell reflects, "is that there's nobody to carry your jacket down to the bottom of the hill while you're racing. So you freeze in your skin-suit in the lift on the way up."

At the end of a remarkable week, Bell is not complaining too loudly. Tenth place in a World Cup downhill at Val Gardena last Saturday, followed by wins in two International Ski Federation (FIS) races over a shortened version of the same course on Wednesday and Thursday, consolidated a fine opening to his third season in skiing's top flight.

"Val Gardena is a place with which I have some rapport," he said yesterday after receiving a hero's welcome at the British Ski Federation's headquarters in London. "The course is so well prepared that it doesn't break up. I could start 59th in the World Cup race and 23rd in the FIS race and still have something decent to ski on."

In most conditions, a low start number is a real handicap. At Val d'Isère a fortnight ago, Bell reckoned that deterioration of the piste between the first starter and himself an hour later made the difference between a finish in the first 10 and his still creditable thirtieth place. Calculated on previous performances, the start numbers are changed only twice during the season, so the true significance of Val Gardena will not be apparent until Kitzbühel in January, when he expects to find himself on the fringe of the top 30.

What has made the difference between last season's dismal showings and this year's bright start? "We're benefiting from training with the United States team," Bell says. "It means that in training we have three video cameras along the course, instead of one, and it provides us with the kind of internal competition that motivates the bigger teams."

After years of rattling around the Alps in a minibus crammed with skiing paraphernalia, the British team – Bell, his younger brother Graham, and Nigel Smith, plus manager, coach and trainer – now also have a car. "There's a lot of travelling, and the car makes it less gruelling. The hardest part of the life is loading and unloading the skis every time we move on. Graham and I have about 25 pairs between us. It's hard work."

Bell was six when his father, an RAF flight instructor, took the family to Scotland to try a weekend's skiing. Two years later he won his first race, on a plastic slope outside Nottingham, and by the age of 10 he knew his destiny.

"I've always said that I'll go on until the Winter Olympics in 1988 and then make up my mind about what to do next," he says, "but it's hard to pin all your hopes on one race when luck has such a lot to do with it. And I'll still be only 23 then. That might be my physical peak, but experience is so vital in racing that I might get my best results when I'm 26 or 27. The question then will be whether the motivation is still there."

LEADING POSITIONS: 1, J Gaspoz (It) 2 min 16.89sec; 2, R Erlacher (It) 2:17.05; 3, H Strolz (Austria) 2:17.42; 4, M Girardelli (Lux) 2:17.72; 5, O Tomen (It) 2:17.82; 6, C Geldet (Fr) 2:17.95; 7, I Stenmark (Swe) 2:18.05; 8, R Krizaj (Yug) 2:18.33; 9, H Eon (Austria) 2:18.62; 10, M Julen (Switz) 2:18.28; 11, M Tonazzi (It) 2:18.35; 12, R Plaine (Austria) 2:19.51; 13, L Ormozzi (Italy) 2:19.52; 14, P Roth (WG) 2:19.54; 15, H Pieren (Switz) 2:19.55.

World Cup: Overall standings: 1, Girardelli 80 points; 2, P Mueller (Switz) 70; 3, P Wirnsberger (Austria) 65; 4, Krizaj 58; 5, K Ahrlger (Switz) 55; 6, Erlacher 53, British: 47 equal, M Bell 60.

Giant slalom standings: 1, Gaspoz 36 pts; 2 equal, Erlacher and Strolz 35; 4, Stenmark 34; 5, Girardelli 22; 6 equal Krizaj and Glader 15.



Bell: date with destiny

Spare tyre inspires deflated Swiss

Kranjska Gora, Yugoslavia (Reuter) – Joel Gaspoz shrugged off a reputation of being the "spare tyre" in the Swiss men's team yesterday when he won the World Cup giant slalom race here to give the team their first victory of the season.

Gaspoz's unexpected win – he has not had a World Cup victory since December 1981 and suffered a back injury last weekend – brought confidence back to the Swiss men's teams, who have failed to find their dominating form of last season. The team trainer, Karl Frehsner, summed up the elation in the Swiss camp when he said the win would put the whole team back on the winning trail. "We've grown used to thinking of Joel as the spare tyre," he said. "Now he's become the wheel of the whole team."

Gaspoz overcame Robert Erlacher, who was leading after the first leg of the 51-gate Pookoren course but threw his victory chance away with a crucial second-leg slip. He lost control of his line near the finish and finished 0.17 seconds behind Gaspoz.

"I blew it," he said. "I had to take risks and I just slid out. I don't know when I'll get another chance like this."

Gaspoz relied on precise technique to conquer the physically and mentally demanding course, which claimed many casualties in both legs.

"I knew I had a chance to do something like this," he said. "But on this course you have to have a lot of clean technique. I was more aggressive and in the first leg I made a few mistakes. In the second leg there was more technique required and that favoured me."

Gaspoz admitted to a lack of motivation in the past. "I feel I have grown more responsible. I have been training harder and I have a better attitude and ready to make greater sacrifices."

Ingemar Stenmark failed to recapture the form which won him the giant slalom at Alta Badia last weekend and had made him a pre-race favourite. He finished seventh and said he had had trouble on the first leg because he found the course too straight and direct for his technique.

The World Cup champion, Marc Girardelli of Luxembourg, who is still looking for his first victory this season, finished in fourth place but was still in the lead with 80 points in the World Cup overall standings.

A blunder by Rok Petrovic just short of the finishing line dashed the hopes of the partisan homie crowd. The Yugoslav teenager straddled the last gate on the second leg when he was on course for a winning time and was disqualified.

FOOTBALL, RUGBY AND OTHER WEEKEND FIXTURES

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated

First division

Birmingham City v Chelsea
Coventry City v Everton
Liverpool v Newcastle United
Luton Town v West Ham United
Manchester United v Arsenal
Sheffield Wed v Manchester City
Tottenham v Ipswich Town

Second division

Charlton v Grimsby Town
Oldham v Middlesbrough
Huddersfield Town v Oldham Athletic
Norwich City v Millwall
Stoke City v Barnsley
Wimbledon v Sheffield United

FA TROPHY: First round: Bangor City v Wrexham; Barnet v Wycombe; Bedworth v Frickley; Bishop Auckland v Blyth Spartans; Bourne v Stamford v Wokingham; Bridgend v Barrow; Brentford v Slough; Chelmsford v Bath; Cheltenham v Fisher; Crawley v Worcester; Dagenham v Shepney; Dulwich v Windsor and Eton; Enfield v Waterlooville; Gravs v Uxbridge (3.30); Hyde v Corby; Kidderminster v Boston; King's Lynn v Macclesfield; Maidstone v Weymouth; Nantwich v Burton; Northwich v Workington; Rhyl v Leek Town; Runcorn v Marine; Rhyndoe CA v Altrincham; Saltash v Dartford; Scarborough v Barrow; Slough v Telford; Southbank v Whitby (3.15); Stafford v Llanelli; Sutton United v Kettering; Telford v Southport; Weadstone v Woking; Worthing v Salisbury.

MULTIPART LEAGUE: Clarmarton v Buxton (1.0); Goole v Horwich; South Liverpool v Worksop.

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Premier division: Aylesbury v Fareham; Basingstoke v Altrincham; Dudley v RS Southampton; Gosport v Folkestone; Witney v Gravesend. Midland division: Banbury v Leicester United; Bridgnorth v VS Rugby; Forest Green Rovers v Bilston; Grantham v Mile Oak Rovers; Hednesford v Rushden; Moor Green v Coventry Sporting; Oldbury v Leamington; Redditch v Gloucester City; Sutton Coldfield v Atherst Town; Wellingborough v Smethbridge. Southern division: Burnham and Hillingdon v Tonbridge; Chatham v Canterbury City; Dorchester v Andover; Dover v Erith and Belvedere; Hastings Town v Dunstable; Thanet United v Trowbridge Town.

VAUXHALL-OPEL LEAGUE: Premier division: Hitchin v Wokingham Avenue; Kingstonian v Hayes. First DivisionHarlow Town v Maidenhead; Oxford City v Leytonstone/Ilford; St Albans City v Aveley. Second division, North: Berkhamsted v Rainham; Royston v Barton; Ware v Tring. Second division, South: Eastbourne United v Bracknell; Feltham v Southwick; Hungerford v Horsham; Molesey v Racksell Heath; Ruislip Manor v Egham; Southall v Newbury.

FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Arsenal v Norwich; Brighton v Portsmouth; Bristol Rovers v Luton; Chelsea v Swindon (3.15); Ipswich v Southampton (2.0); Watford v Fulham; West Ham v Swansea (2.0).

SMURNOFF IRISH LEAGUE (2.15): Bangor v Glentoran; Ballymena v Carrick; Glenavon v Linfield; Distillery v Portadown; Glenavon v Newry; Glentoran v Chimneys; Larne v Ards.

BRYTEBOUGHS NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Billingham Synthonia v Peterlee; Brandon v Crook; Chester-le-Street v Billingham; Consett v Spennymoor; Ferryhill v Bedlington; Hartlepool v Tow Law; Whitley Bay v Greens.

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Alfreton v Thackley; Appleby Frodingham v Boston; Armthorpe Wellers v Pontefract Cols; Arnold v Bentley Victoria; Belper Tn v Sutton; Eastwood Tn v Spalding; Emley v Long Eaton; Farsley Celtic v Heanor; Ilkeston Tn v Denaby.

GREAT MILLS WESTERN LEAGUE (3.0): Premier Division: Bristol Manor Farm v Frome; Chard v Paulton Rovers; Clandown v Shepton Mallet; Exmouth v Weston-Super-Mare; Melksham v Bristol City (2.30); Minehead v Mangotsfield United; Taunton v Bideford; Torrington v Dawlish (2.30).

BUILDING SCENE EASTERN LEAGUE: Braintree v Sudbury; Bury v Haverhill Rovers; Chatteris v Felixstowe; Clacton v Soham Town Rangers; Ely City v Thetford; Gorleston v March; Great Yarmouth v Wisbech; Histon v Brantham; Newmarket v Lowestoft; Stowmarket v Colchester Res.

HENE GROUP UNITED COUNTIES: Premier division: Ampthill v Irthlingborough; Bourne v St Neots; Buckingham v Eynesbury; Holbeach v Desborough; Long Buckby v Potton; Newport Pagnell v Arlesey; Northampton Spencer v Baldock; Raunds v Brackley; Rothwell v S and L Corby; Wootton v Stamford.

Third division

Bolton Wanderers v Doncaster Rovers
Bristol City v Bournemouth
Newport County v Wolverhampton
Reading v Plymouth Argyle

Fourth division

Chester v Peterborough
Exeter City v Aldershot
Orient v Southend United
Preston North End v Northampton (1.30).
Rochdale v Torquay United

LONDON SPARTAN LEAGUE: Premier division (2.15): Bromsdown Rovers v Beaconsfield United; Crown and Manor v Hanwell Town; Edgware v Cedar Rise (2.0); Northwood v Barnet; Swanley Town v Redhill; Thatcham Town v Amersham Town (3.0); Yeading v Berkhamsted (3.0).

HALLS BREWERY HELLENIC LEAGUE: Premier division (2.15): Abingdon Town v Wallingford; Almondsbury v Hounslow; Bicester v Moreton Town; Pegasus Juniors v Morris Motors; Rayners Lane v Maidenhead Town; Sharpness v Fairford; Supermarine v Thame; Wantage v Abingdon United; Yate v Sherwood United.

COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division (2.15): Bae Wentmore v Farnham; Chobham v Cranleigh; Farnham v Horley Wimney; Frost v Virgins Water (3.0); Frimley Green v Chertsey; Godalming v Maiden Vale; Horley v Cobham (3.0); Malden v Westfield; Merstham v Ash United.

SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division (2.0): Arundel v Horsham YMCA; Horsham v Burgess Hill; Littlehampton v Lancing; Midhurst and E v Chichester City; Portfield v Steyning; Shoreham v Peacehaven, Whitehawk v Ringmer.

ESSEX SENIOR LEAGUE (2.0): Canvey Island v Chelmsford Res; Coggeshall v Eton Manor; East Ham v Brightlingsea; East Thurrock v Stanstead; Halstead Vauxhall; Maldon v Ford United; Saffron Walden v Brentwood.

ESSEX SENIOR TROPHY: Third round replay: Eastbourne Town v Three Bridges (1.15).

ESSEX THAMESIDE TROPHY: First round: Barking v Leyton/Wingate.

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE (11.0) First division (11.0): Charlton Athletic v Arsenal; Norwich City v Cambridge United; Portsmouth v Orient; QPR v Millwall; Southend United v Ipswich Town; Tottenham v Gillingham; Watford v Fulham. Second division: Bristol Rovers v Southend United; Colchester United v Wimbledon; Crystal Palace v Reading; Oxford United v Luton Town; Southampton v Bournemouth; Swindon Town v Brighton.

HOCKEY

PIZZA EXPRESS LONDON LEAGUE: Premier division (2.15): Richmond v Blackheath. League: Bromley v Purley; Guildford v Beckenham; Hawks v Southgate; Old Kingstonians v Hounslow; Spencer v Cheam; Surbiton v Dulwich; Wimbledon v Maidenhead.

NORWICH UNION EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Crosby v Cambo Nomads. First division South: Wanstead v Upminster.

McEWAN'S LAGER SOUTH LEAGUE: Premier division: Anchorians v Amersham; Old Tauntonians v Oxford Hawks.

RUGBY LEAGUE

JOHN PLAYER SPECIAL TROPHY

Semi-final

St Helens v Hull KR (at Headingley, 2.15)

BASKETBALL

CARLSBERG NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division (6.0): Happy Eater Bracknell Pirates v Mission Bears; Worthing Team Polycell Kingston v London Docklands C Palaces; Sharp Manchester United v Manchester Giants; Sperrings Solent Stars v Brunel Ducks Uxbridge; ORS Sunderland v Birmingham Bullets. Second division: Calderdale Explorers v Derby (7.30); Team Wakefields Nottingham v English Estates Cleveland (7.00); Oldham Celtics v Brixton Topcats (7.30); Swindon Rakers v CAD Tower Hamlets (6.00).

WOMEN'S NATIONAL CUP: Semi-final: Louvolite Manchester v Dalhatsu Crystal Palace (6.00).

ICE HOCKEY

HEINEKEN LEAGUE: Premier division: Dundee Rockets v Ayr Bruins (7.00); Fife Flyers v Whitley Warriors (7.15); Murrayfield Racers v Streatham Redskins (1.00); Cleveland Bombers v Nottingham Panthers (6.30). First division: Blackpool Seagulls v Oxford City Stars (7.00).

Scottish premier division

Celtic v Motherwell
Clydebank v Dundee
Dundee United v Aberdeen
Hibernian v Rangers
St Mirren v Hearts

Scottish first division

Airdrieonians v Montrose
Brechin City v Partick Thistle
Clyde v Alloa Athletic
East Fife v Ayr United (2.0)
Falkirk v Morton
Hamilton v Forfar Athletic
Kilmarnock v Dumbarton

VOLLEYBALL

ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND NATIONAL LEAGUE: Men's first division: Crystal City Bruins v Polonia (7.00); Weymouth Rembrandt v Liverpool City (5.30); Mallory v Redwood Lodge (3.30).

Scottish second division

Arbroath v Meadowbank
Berwick v Dunfermline
Cowdenbeath v St Johnstone
Queen of South v East Stirling
Queen's Park v Stenhousemuir
Raith Rovers v Stranraer
Stirling Albion v Albion Rovers

LACROSSE

BRINE NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Colwyn v Sale; Old Holmeians v Urmston; Old Waconians v Mellor; Sheffield v Ashton; Stockport v Meaton Mersey.

BRINE SOUTH OF ENGLAND LEAGUE: First division (2.2): Beckenham v Hillcroft; Blackheath Hill v Merton; Hampstead v Cheltenham. Second division: Merton 'A' v Blackheath Hill 'A'; Croydon v Hampstead 'A'; Hitchin v Beckenham 'A'.

OTHER SPORT

NETBALL: County Match: Suffolk v Surrey (Normanis Sc, Ipswich).

RACKETS: Public Schools Singles (Queen's Club, West Kensington).

RUGBY UNION

THORN EMI DIVISIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Midlands v London (at Northampton, 2.15)
South-West v North (at Bristol, 2.15)

JOHN SMITH'S MERIT TABLE A

Bath v Harlequins
Headingley v Sale (2.30)
Leicester v Bristol
Nottingham v Gosforth

JOHN SMITH'S MERIT TABLE B

Blackheath v Richmond (2.15)
Liverpool v Rosslyn Park (2.0)
London Welsh v London Irish (2.15)

MERIT TABLE C

Exeter v Metropolitan Police (2.30)
Fylde v Vale of Lune (2.15)

SCHWEPPES WELSH CUP

Second Round

Aberavon Quins v Aberavon
Bridgend v Oakdale
Cardiff v Penarth
Carmarthen v Seven Sisters
Ebbw Vale v Cross Keys
Swansea University v Dunvant
Glamorgan Wanderers v Ramney (2.30)
Kenfig Hill V Pontypool
Llanelli v Llantrisant
Cilfynydd v Maesteg
Newbridge v Neath Athletic
Newport v Mountain Ash
Neath v Penarth
Wrexham v Pyle
Cardigan v South Wales Police (2.30)
Kidwelly v Swansea

SCOTTISH INTER-DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP

Anglo-Scots v Edinburgh (at Richmond, 2.15)
North & Midlands v Glasgow (at Seafield, Aberdeen, 2.15)

CLUB MATCHES

Boroughmuir v Hawick (2.15)
Bradford v Sheffield (2.30)
Coventry v Gloucester
Durham v Jedforest (2.15)
Gala v Kelso (2.15)
Glasgow Academicals v Harlot's FP (2.15)
London Scottish v Birkenhead Park (2.30)
Melrose v Northern (2.15)
Middlesbrough v Hull & ER (2.15)
Moseley v Bedford
New Brighton v Nuneaton
Otley v West Hartlepool (2.30)
Preston Lodge v Stewart's-Melville FP (2.15)
Rugby v Saracens
St Ives V Camborne
Wakefield v Orrell (2.30)
Wasps v Northampton
Waterloo v Roundhay (2.15)
Weston-super-Mare v Launceston
Wimbledon v Morley

ULSTER LEAGUE: Academy v CIYMS; Collegians v Ballymena; North v Old Belvedere; ARDs v Malone; Dungannon v City of Derry; Portadown v Lisburne; Bangor v St Mary's; Lansdowne v Instonians; Queens University v Greystones.

TOMORROW

First division
West Bromwich v Watford

Second division
Carlisle v Portsmouth (2.0); Hull v Leeds (11.30); Sunderland v Crystal Palace.

Third division
Brentford v Bristol Rovers; Derby v Wigan (11.30); Lincoln v Rotherham; Notts County v Blackpool.

Fourth division
Mansfield v Port Vale (11.45); Scunthorpe v Halifax; Swindon v Hereford.

RUGBY UNION
Manchester v Liverpool.

RUGBY LEAGUE
FIRST DIVISION: Castleford v Leeds (3.30); Dewsbury v Bradford (3.30); Featherstone v Warrington (3.30); Halifax v Wigan; Swinton v Hull; York v Widnes (2.15).
SECOND DIVISION: Barrow v Batley (2.30); Bramley v Huddersfield (3.30); Doncaster v Wakefield (2.30); Fulham v Rochdale (2.15); Hunslet v Rochdale (3.30); Keighley v Mansfield (3.15); Leigh v Carlisle (3.30); Whitehaven v Blackpool (3.30); Workington v Sheffield Eagles (2.30).
JOHN PLAYER SPECIAL TROPHY: Semi-final: St Helens v Hull KR (2.15, at Headingley).

BASKETBALL

CARLSBERG NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Cleveland Bombers v Nottingham Panthers (6.30). First division: Blackpool Seagulls v Oxford City Stars (7.00).

Watford Royals (3.0). Second division: ANC Liverpool v Team Telecom Colchester (4.0).
WOMEN'S NATIONAL CUP: Semi-final: Nottingham Wildcats v Avon Northampton (3.30).

ICE HOCKEY

HEINEKEN LEAGUE: Premier division: Ayr Bruins v Streatham Redskins (7.0); Dundee Rockets v Murrayfield Racers (6.30); Peterborough Pirates v Durham Wasps (5.30); Whitley Warriors v Nottingham Panthers (6.30). First division: Glasgow Dynamos v Oxford City Stars (5.45); Richmond Flyers v Lee Valley Lions (5.45); Solihull Barons v Altrincham Aces (6.15); Southampton Vikings v Bournemouth Stags (6.0).

VOLLEYBALL

ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND NATIONAL LEAGUE: Men's first division: Speedwell Runcorn v Liverpool City (3.0); Polonia v Weymouth Remorandt (1.30).

HANDBALL

BRITISH CUP: First round: Wakefield v Birkenhead
ENGLISH NATIONAL LEAGUE (women): Kirkby Ladies v Selford Ladies (4.0).

OTHER SPORT

CROSS COUNTRY: IAC International Meeting (Alexandra Palace); Veterans 'S' (Putney Vale).
RACKETS: Public Schools Singles (Queen's Club, West Kensington).

YACHTING

Kuttel closes on leader

With 3,000 miles still to cover before the leading yachts competing in the 27,000 mile Whitbread Round the World race reach Auckland, the second stopover port, the American registered maxi Atlantic Privateer, skippered by the South African Peter Kuttel shortened the gap between her and the race leader, NZI Enterprise to within 19 miles yesterday (Boris Pickthall writes). She now heads the handicap listings ahead of NZI and the Dutch yacht Philips Innovator.

LEADING POSITIONS (at 10.40 GMT yesterday): 1, NZI Enterprise (D Taylor, NZ); 2, Atlantic Privateer (P Kuttel, US); 3, UBS Switzerland (P Fehlmann, Switz); 4, Drum (R Novak, UK); 5, Lion New Zealand (P Blake, NZ). Handicap Ratings: 1, Atlantic Privateer; 2, NZI Enterprise; 3, Philips Innovator (D Nauta, Neth); 4, L'Esprit d'Equipe (L Peen, Fr); 5, Fazer Finland (M Berner, Fin).

CRICKET

Hookes lodges complaint

Brisbane (Reuter) – David Hookes, captain of South Australia, left the field to lodge an official complaint against the umpires, Mel Johnson and Col Timmins, in a Sheffield Shield match against Queensland at the Gabba, yesterday.

Hookes complained to the match referee, Grantley Evans, the Queensland Cricket Association secretary, after two umpiring decisions went against South Australia.

In another incident, Allan Border survived an appeal for a catch at the wicket by Wayne Phillips when he had made 27. There was an exchange between Hookes and Border who went on to make 118.

More cricket, page 27

FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL

UNITED STATES: National Associan (NBA): Cleveland Cavaliers 109, New York Knicks 105; Dallas Mavericks 120, Atlanta Hawks 108; Washington Bullets 98, Chicago Bulls 89; Denver Nuggets 123, Portland Trail Blazers 118; Phoenix Suns 107, Sacramento Kings 106; Detroit Pistons 99, Seattle Supersonics 97.

CARLSBERG NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Manchester Giants 97 (Kennedy 33), ORS Sunderland 89 (Alexander 29); Homeserve Bolton 105 (Grieves 34) Wolters Crisps Leicester 115 (Young 54).

BARCELONA: Spanish Cup Final: Real Madrid 87, Juventus 79.

CRICKET

SHEFFIELD SHIELD: Melbourne: New South Wales 241 (G Lawson 69; R Bright 6 for 74) v Victoria. Brisbane: Queensland 312 for 9 (A Border 118, K Wessels 65) v South Australia.

BOXING

SEOUL: IBF flyweight title (15 rounds): Chang Chong-Kwan (S Kor) stpd Kwon Sun-Chon (S Kor), fourth.

OTTAWA: Welterweight (10 rounds): Shawn O'Sullivan (Can) KO Ramon Nunez (Mex), 6th.

LOS ANGELES: WBC junior lightweight (10 rounds): Julio Cesar Chavez (US) stpd Joe Bumphus (US), fifth; Oscar Bejinas (Mex) bt Mario Miranda (Col), pts; Angel Hernandez (Mex) bt Juan Antonio Lopez (Mex), pts.

ICE HOCKEY

NORTH AMERICA: National League (NHL): Quebec Nordiques 5, Montreal Canadiens 4; Philadelphia Flyers 8, New Jersey Devils 3; Boston Bruins 2, Hartford Whalers 1; Pittsburgh Penguins 4, Minnesota North Stars 3.

MOSCOW: Izvestia Trophy: Czechoslovakia 7, Canada 2; Soviet Union 10, Sweden 1. Finland 1, Czechoslovakia 1.

TENNIS

ADELAIDE: South Australian open: Quarter-finals: P Doohan (Aus) bt A Marsdorf (Ger) 6-3, 6-4; E Edwards (SA) bt L Shiras (US) 6-2, 6-2; C Steyn (SA) bt J Fitzgerald (Aus) 3-6, 7-5, 6-2; W Masur (Aus) bt R Saad (Arg) 0-6, 6-4, 7-6.

FOOTBALL

WEST GERMAN CUP: Quarter-final: Bayer Leverkusen 0, Waldhof Mannheim 1.
FRENCH CHAMPIONS TROPHY: Monaco 1, Bordeaux 1 (Monaco won 8-7 on penalties).

BOBSLEIGHING

SARAJEVO: World Cup: Third round: 1, USSR I (Poikuns and Berzups) 1:44.70; 2, USSR II (Savlev and Makarenko) 1:44.83; 3, Switzerland (Fessler and Meier) 1:44.92.

SNOOKER

NOTTINGHAM: Kit Kat Break for World Champions: Semi-final: Dennis Taylor bt T Griffiths 6-4, S Davis bt A Higgins 6-1.
Final: S Davis leads Dennis Taylor 4-3

RACKETS

QUEEN'S CLUB: Public Schools singles championship: H K Foster Cup quarter-finals: J I Longley (Tonbridge) bt J P R Tennant (Wellington) 15-4, 15-1; 15-4; G S Palmer (Clifton) bt M A Smyth-Osbourne (Eton) 15-7, 15-11, 15-6; H A L Paterson (Winchester) bt A M Searle (Malvern) 15-2, 10-16, 9-15, 15-12, 15-8; R C H Bruce (Wellington) bt C M Hue Williams (Eton) 15-4, 15-9, 15-13. Invitation Winkfield Cup (Under 16) quarter-finals: A J Robinson (Marlborough) bt W St J Bees (Clifton) 15-2, 15-2; R J R Clark (Clifton) bt J Zawodo-Martin (Winchester) 15-4, 13-12; H D J Swinglehurst (Eton) bt T J H West (Radley) 15-9, 15-10; G W Barker (Marlborough) bt M Strecker (Charterhouse) 15-1, 15-7. Semi-finals: Robinson bt Clark 15-12, 16-5, 16-7; Swinglehurst bt Barker 15-9, 14-17, 0-15, 16-9, 15-3. Rennis Cup: Second round: B Hall (Haileybury) bt G N Lunt (Malvern) 15-12, 6-15, 15-15; R S Brown (Rugby) bt L J S Shefford (Eton) 15-9, 17-14; I K Tasbarlake (Malvern) bt J Byng (Winchester) 15-11, 18-4; J Wilmot (Tonbridge) by M C Taylor (Charterhouse) 14-18, 15-0, 15-2; M G Lewis (Rugby) bt J Callow (Tonbridge) 15-1, 9-15, 15-10. Third round: D B White (Clifton) bt M A Hennan (Malvern) 15-4, 15-2; A T E Vincent (Charterhouse) bt C S Heworth (Malvern) 8-15, 15-8, 18-16; S P Alexander (Wellington) bt J G K Wright (Rugby) 15-2, 15-11; Hall bt J L Nance (Tonbridge) 15-4, 15-0; S A Rose (Harrow) bt C A Cunningham-Reid (Eton) 15-4, 15-8; Wilmot bt Timberlake 15-9, 15-9.

BOWLS

TEESIDE: Cleveland masters (Teesside unless stated): Section A: K Bainbridge 15, B Graham 9, G Niven (Huddersfield) 8, F Oldley 15. Section B: W McCluean (Widnes) 15, K O'Riordan 12; T Dutta 10, H Johnson 15; T Butler (Stanley) 15, M Gerry 11; A Brown 12, A Teesvale 12. Section C: T Fraudick (Hartlepool) 15, M Grant 13; R Laycock 9, I Marshall 15. Section D: G Vowes 15, B Earl 2; K Resnick (Sunderland) 15, T Ward 8, G Hardy 5, A Jones 15; J Lazenan 15, J Simpson 5. Section E: F Batty 11, M Jackman (Ely) 15; R Sutherland (West Lothian) 13, M Jackson 12. Section H: D Dawson 11, G Lindsay 15; T Lowe (Cambridge) 15, S Wintersgill 12.

HOCKEY

BRISTOL: Rosses indoor tournament: Group A: Slough 11, Talbot Hill 7.

هكذا من الأصل

MOTOR RACING

Spain and Mexico back on the circuit

By John Blunsden

The confirmed calendar for the 1986 Formula One world championship was announced by FISA yesterday. It marks the disappearance of three familiar events from the 16 race series and their replacement by the first championship round to take place in Eastern Europe and by the revival of grand prix in Spain and Mexico.

Missing from the list is the Dutch Grand Prix, which has become a victim of the inadequate facilities at the Zandvoort circuit and of the environmental lobby which had placed the future of the race in doubt for some years. The roving European Grand Prix, which this year gave Britain a second world championship race, is to be dropped in 1986 while the South African Grand Prix has been placed on the reserve list pending an improvement in the political climate and in circuit facilities in that country.

The first grand prix of Hungary will be the eleventh race of the calender, having been placed just one week ahead of the relatively nearby Austrian Grand Prix, thereby enabling teams to move directly from the newly created circuit near Budapest to the Osterreichring.

The grand prix returns to Spain after an absence of five years and will take place on another new circuit at Jerez de la Frontera, on which an inaugural local race has recently been staged.

Not since 1970 has the world championship involved a round in Mexico, but next season the teams will be returning to the same venue on the outskirts of Mexico City where Jacky Ickx last won in a Ferrari. Extensive improvements to the circuit will be required between now and next October.

As usual, the new season will begin at Rio de Janeiro with the Brazilian Grand Prix and as this year it will end in Adelaide where the inaugural Australian Grand Prix there was such a resounding success a few weeks ago.

1986 calendar

FORMULA ONE CHAMPIONSHIP: March 23: Brazil, Rio de Janeiro. April 13: Spain, Jerez de la Frontera. April 27: San Marino, at Imola, Italy. May 11: Monaco. May 25: Belgium, Spa-Francorchamps. June 15: Canada, Montreal. June 22: Detroit. July 6: France, Dijon. July 13: Britain, Brands Hatch. July 27: Germany, Hockenheim. Aug 10: Hungary, Budapest. Aug 17: Austria, Zeltweg. Sept 7: Italy, Monza. Sept 21: Portugal, Estoril. Oct 12: Mexico, Mexico City. Oct 26: Australia, Adelaide.

ENDURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP: March 30: Monza, Italy. April 6: Mugello, Italy (drivers). April 20 or March 16: Estoril, Portugal. May 4: Silverstone. May 18: La Mans 24 Hours. June 29: Nurburg, West Germany (drivers). July 26: Brands Hatch, England. Brands. Aug 3: Mosport, Canada (provisional on-circuit inspection). Aug 24: Nurburgring, West Germany. Sept 14: Spa-Francorchamps, Belgium. Oct 5: Fuji, Japan. Nov 23: Surfer's Paradise, Queensland, Australia. Dec 7: Alam, Selangor, Malaysia (drivers).

CRICKET

Zimbabwe optimism over B tour

From Jain Raath

Harare

Alwyn Pichanick, president of the Zimbabwe Cricket Union said here yesterday he was "optimistic" that the proposed tour by the England B team would go ahead.

The tour, the third leg a three-nation tour by the squad, is in jeopardy because five members of the side have played or coached in South Africa. Zimbawe enforces a policy inspired by the Gleneagles agreement of not permitting sportsmen and women to paly here unless they publicly undertake not to have further contact with the country.

Mr Pichanick would not give details of the negotiations he was pursuing with the English Test and County Cricket Board, saying both bodies had agreed not to make details of their discussions public.

He expected the negotiations would be concluded "soon in the New Year".

He pointed out the negotiations had been started three months ago, when the England B side was first announced. Tobaiwa Mudede, the chairman of the Zimbawe National Sports and Recreational Council, the body countrolling visits by overseas teams, would not comment.

● LONDON: Zimbabwe should be expelled from the International Cricket Conference on account of their national sports council's objections to England B cricketers who have played or coached in South Africa, Eddie Barlow, the director of South Africa's sports office here, said yesterday (Ivo Tennant writes).

Barlow, the former Test cricketer, said that this was a clear case of government interference in sport. "It is out of order for a government not to accept people who have the right to play cricket wherever they wish.

"Sabre-rattling and meddling in sport is strong blackmail. This may lead to a split-up of cricketing nations – and they have only themselves to blame.

Damper on India

Hobart, (Reuter) - India's preparations for next week's second Test match were interrupted yesterday when rain washed out their opening day of their four-day match against Tasmania. With more rain forecast the match could be shortened even further.

BOXING

Kaylor-Sibson offer rejected

Frank Warren's £30,000 offer to Mark Kaylor, to contest Tony Sibson's Commonwealth middleweight championship, has been rejected. Kaylor's manager, Terry Lawless, said the promoter he was not interested.

Warren was proposing a March date if Kaylor had accepted, but will not be surprised by Lawless's reply. Kaylor has also withdrawn as official challenger for Herol Graham's British middleweight title.

Graham's next contest will almost certainly be as challenger for Ayub Kalule's European championship. Kalule retained it in Italy on Thursday night, by beating the Zaire-born Italian champion, Sumbu Kalambay, on points.

RACING: WELSH NATIONAL CAN GO TO A WOMAN TRAINER FOR FIFTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR

Planetman to enjoy safe landing this time

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

Twelve months ago I thought Planetman capable of winning the Coral Welsh National at Chepstow and he looked like doing so until he took the fourth-last fence by the roots and all but fell.

That mistake knocked the stuffing out of him. He lost all his impetus and in the circumstances did well to recover and finish third, ten lengths behind the eventual winner and stable companion, Righthand Man.

Now, with only a pound more on his back, Planetman is my selection again. Coincidentally, his preparation for today's marathon has involved exactly the same two races at Market Rasen and Nottingham that formed his warm-up last year. But there I hope the coincidence ends.

Wherever Planetman finishes Righthand Man, who has joined him in the line-up again, should not be far away. Horses who genuinely stay three and three-quarter miles on soft ground are rare so he seems bound to be thereabouts with only 2lb more to carry.

West Tip will also relish the ground and the distance but I feel that this race could have come too soon after that tough confrontation with Door Latch and Burrough Hill Lad at Ascot a week ago.

The same women trainers who have dominated this race for the past four years are all represented. Monica Dickison relies on the two who finished first and third last year. Jenny Pitman, the dominant character in 1983 and the following year, saddles another past winner Corbiere, in addition to Smith's Man, while Helen Hamilton relies on Peaty Sandy, who won this event in 1981.

Peaty Sandy will need to run a great deal better than he did at Haydock recently but he is capable of doing precisely that because for some inexplicable reason he seems to have formed a dislike for Haydock, where he has now run three bad races.

Mrs Pitman's pair are held by Planetman if their race at Nottingham on Dec 7 is anything to go by.

Of those who contested last month's Hennessy Gold Cup I expect Rhyme 'n Reason to do best this time, especially as he revealed that he possessed the requisite stamina in the Spring when he won the Irish National.

My idea of the day's best bet is Squires Jubilee, who is napped to win the Philip Cornes Novices' Hurdle (qualifier) at Cheltenham, 15 days ago, he looked like winning a very competitive handicap until the last hurdle proved his downfall. Luckily he came out of that fracas completely unscathed. Before that Mrs Derek Wigan's steadily-improving six-year-old beat Mount Bolus and Newlar in some style at Newbury, considering it was his first race of the season. In the meantime they have both paid their conqueror a compliment, Mount Bolus winning next time out at Huntingdon and Newlar finishing second to Tom Sharp at Cheltenham.

Highland Gold, who finished third at Cheltenham after Squires Jubilee had fallen, now looks the one to be on for the Kingsbridge Handicap Hurdle while the conditions of the Finale Junior Hurdle look tailormade to suit Ballyarry, who is not penalized in spite of winning four times in a row.

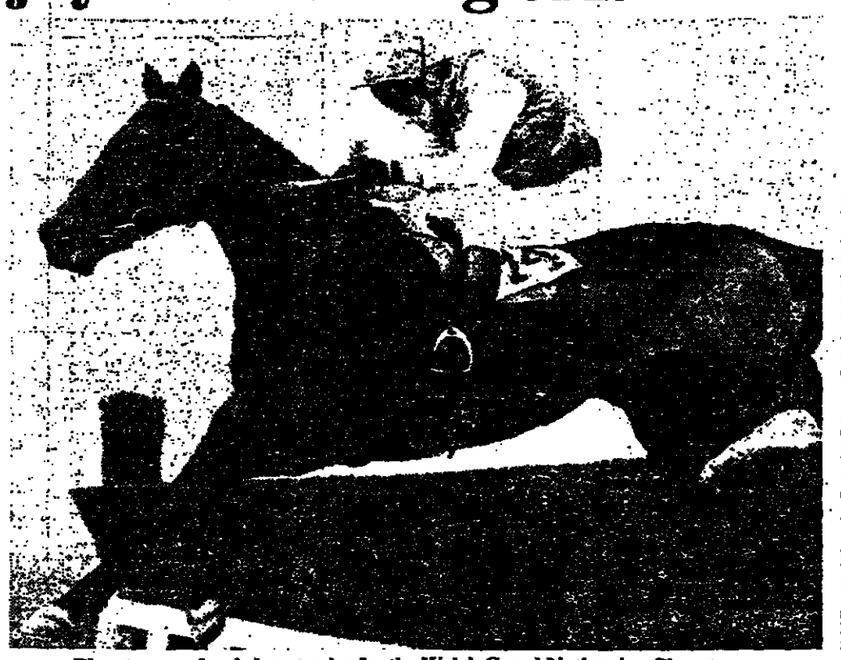
At Lingfield Tim Forster and Hywel Davies, who landed a double at Hereford on Thursday can pull off another with Clara Mountain (11.45) and Western Sunset (1.45). Clara Mountain, who was going well in the lead when falling first time out, can atone by taking the first division of the Tote Place Only Novices' Chase.

Western Sunset, my selection for the Tote Bookmakers' Handicap Chase, has already shown a liking for the Surrey Course by winning twice there. Having run so well initially at Cheltanham in the race won by Combs Ditch he can now put paid to the aspirations of the latter's stable companion, Buckbe, who has never impressed me chasing the day she did hurdling.

Tsarella (3.25) is the best bet at Lingfield, though, in my opinion. This full sister to The Tsarevich would probably have made a successful debut at Newbury last month had she not hit the second-last hurdle and lost her momentum. As it was she was still beaten only a neck by State Diplomacy.

At Nottingham I expect Peter Harris, and his jockey Robert Stronge, to land a double with Landing Board (1.15) and The Sunken Road (1.45).

Also on the Midlands course it should pay to back Dermot Browne riding the recent easy Uttoxeter winner Galesburg for Nick Gaselee in the Ansfield Novices Chase. But his stable companion Grateful Heir looks to have it all to do to beat the top weight. Mercy Rimell's much improved seven-year-old Golden Friend, who was particularly impressive when accounting for The Last Prince at Nottingham last time out.



Planetman, a fancied contender for the Welsh Grand National at Chepstow

Greasepaint can gain National entry at Navan

From Our Irish Correspondent, Dublin

The Irish Minister for Agriculture, Mr Austin Deasy, has by statute to nominate the members of the new racing board before midnight on Dec 31. The decision has reportedly been delayed pending the submission of the Killanin report, but that is not expected to be published until the New Year. In Dublin yesterday though it was being widely tipped that the millionaire businessman Michale Smurfit would take over the chairmanship from Paddy McGrath.

The Smurfit colours will be sported once again this afternoon by Greasepaint in the Santa Clause Handicap Chace over three miles at Navan. This would appear to offer the 10-year old a very reasonable chance of achieving a qualifying win for next year's Aintree Grand National.

It has been noted that Greasepaint, in finishing in the first four in the last three runnings of the National, has jumped 90 fences at Liverpool, covered more than 13 and a half miles and been beaten little more than 16 lengths for the first prize in those three races.

He has been running well in handicaps this Autumn and most recently finished third to the well treated lightweight Fair Is Fair at Fairyhouse. Once again the danger to Greasepaint's qualifying attempt could come from the bottom of the handicap where Miss Gillian O'Brien's Cut Em Down looks the pick. Cut Em Down has won four of his last six steeplechases, but has never been up against an opponent of the calibre of Greasepaint for wilom the Santa Claus could be an appropriately named race.

Michael Cunningham was most disappointed at Punchestown last week when For Auction fell at the third-last fence. At the time he was closing fast on the leader and ultimate winner, Another Brownie, and in my view he would have won had he stood up. Given a clear run, he could beat Hungary Hur in the Mistletoe Novice Chase.

By far the most distinguished hurdler on display today will be the Paddy Mullins trained Ararun. He was tipped to be another Dawn Run in the making when he started his hurdling career with six successive victories. However, he spoiled his reputation at Cheltenham where after running too freely he finished eighth of 30 to Harry Hastings in the Waterford Crystal Supreme Novices Hurdle. It is an indication of the pace set by Ararun, the 7-4 favourite, that he played a major role in helping the winner to a new Cheltenham course record. Ridden this afternoon by Paddy's eldest son, Willie Mullins, Ararun must be fancied for the Lismullen Amateur Hurdle.

Preben Fur eyes Aintree

Preben Fur is earmarked for the Whitbread trophy at the next Grand National meeting, following a fine display of jumping at Kelso yesterday. The eight-year-old beat Durham Edition, the even-money favourite, by four lengths in the Keilder Handicap Chase.

"Man Alive was my only other runner in the Aintree race, and he was well clear when he ran out", his trainer Gordon Richards, said.

Phil Tuck, who managed only two winners by November, has certainly made up for lost time in the last six weeks. Preben Fur was his 20th winner of the season.

CHEPSTOW BBC

[Televised: 1.0, 1.30, 2.5]

Going: soft

1.0 PHILIP CORNES NOVICE HURDLE (Qualifier: £3,790: 2m 4f) (20 runners)

102	2-12123	GOLDEN DELICIOUS (Capt J Macdonald-Buchanan) D Nicholson 5-11-8	P Scudamore
103	14	BIFO (A Foster) T Rafter 5-11-8	D Wonnacott 7
105	0325-10	SQUIRES JUBILEE (Mrs D Wigan) J Gifford 5-11-8	R Rowe
107	4-0312	COMEDY LANE (A Stedden) T Kennard 5-11-8	B Powell
117	403-630	DONALD DAVIES (Mrs N Twiston-Davies) N Twiston Davies 4-11-0	G Mernagh
118	8	DR BIND (A Bazalgette) Miss E Sneyd 5-11-0	P Leach
119	p	DREAMY BLUE (A Gadd) P Bowden 5-11-0	B Wright
125	0-000	HAWTHORN JACKS (Mrs C Collins) Mrs C Collins 5-11-0	B de Haan
126	(3242)-	I'M A DEALER (C Sarlwes) Mrs J Pitman 5-11-0	Steve Knight
128	0	IVOR ANTHONY (P Mellon) I Balding 4-11-0	P Dever
131	30p0p-	KARUSA (R Gibb) J Spearing 4-11-0	P Richards
132	0-0000	LANCE PRIVATE (T Pocock) R Pocock 7-11-0	S Smith Eccles
135	32-0	PIKE'S PEAK (Lord Sqoosa) N Henderson 4-11-0	P Warner
137	6P-	RUSTSTONE (R L Brown) R L Brown 5-11-0	J Brown 7
139	0-12300	SPEND EASY (A Aylett) A Aylett 5-11-0	G Jones
144	200-000	WATER CANON (F Lee) F Lee 4-11-0	C Hawkins
149	0/0000-	GRAFTON MANSEY (A Cooper) J Bosley 6-10-9	P Dunwoody
151	0613-3	LADY NEWTON (Dudley Holdings) J Fox 4-10-9	S Moore
153	60	MOODY GIRL (R Buttery) R Hollinshead 4-10-9	J O'Neill
155	0-p	TRINITY ROSE (Mrs D Fallows) Mrs J Croft 5-10-9	P Warner

1994: No corresponding race

11-4 Squires Jubilee, 9-2 Pikes Peak, 11-2 Ivor Anthony, 7 Golden Delicious, 8 Moody Girl, Lady Newton, 10 I'm A Dealer, 12 Comedy Lane, 14 others.

FROM: GOLDEN DELICIOUS (11-8) 8l 3rd to Oceanus (11-0) at Sandown (2m 5f nov hdle, £5,029, good to firm, Nov 29, 9 ran). SQUIRES JUBILEE had every chance when falling at final flight in race won by Forever Greyhound (10-8) beat Mount Bolus (10-7) 25l at Newbury (2m 5f H'cap hdle, £3,145, good to firm, Nov 22, 15 ran). COMEDY LANE (11-0) 4l 2nd to Kitbo (11-2) at Wincanton (2m nov hdle, £765, good to firm, Nov 28, 8 ran). PIKE'S PEAK (11-0) 30l 5th to Tiel Plus (11-5) at Cheltenham (2m 4f nov hdle, £1,699, soft, Dec 5, 18 ran). WATER CANNON (10-10) 15½l 3rd to Twin Oaks (10-9) 14l 3rd to Accuracy (10-9) at Newbury (2m nov hdle, 22,055, good to firm, Nov 23, 11 ran).

Selection: SQUIRES JUBILEE.

Chepstow selections

By Mandarin

1.0 SQUIRES JUBILEE (nap). 1.30 Ballyarry. 2.05 Planetman. 2.40 John's Present. 3.10 Pukka Major. 3.40 Highland Gold.

1.30 FINALE JUNIOR HURDLE (Grade II: 3-y-o: £6,294: 2m) (13)

202	430113	SAFFRON LORD (D) (A Hunt) L Kennard 11-3	B Powell
203	411	STRING PLAYER (D) (F Lee) F Lee 11-3	C Hawkins
205	2	ANA WASBLAASH (Mrs P Sheen) N Henderson 11-0	S Smith Eccles
206	01111	BALLYARRY (D) (W Mahoney) W A Stephenson 11-0	K Jones
207	0	BEN'S SURPRISE (Orbit Precision Machining) M McCourt 11-0	P Barton
209	60263-	CHRISTO (T Stafford) R Simpson 11-0	K Teeban
210	66	EL GALLEO (J South) J Jenkins 11-0	S Sherwood
212	21-	KOFFI (D) (F Bacon) D Nicholson 11-0	P Scudamore
215	3	SANTILLA BOY (S Gallagher) R Holder 11-0	P Murphy
217	20	THE FOOTMAN (P Powell) D Elsworth 11-0	G Bradley
219		YOUNGSTER (L Salier) F Winter 11-0	S de Haan
220	66	COURTLANDS' GIRL (J Saunders) W E Fisher 10-9	R Rowe
221	3	MISS NEVER HYDE (BF) (Mrs J Micklefield) M Pipe 10-9	P Leach

1994: Out Of The Gloom 11-0 J J O'Neill (7-7) R Hollinshead 13 ran

3 Ballyarry, 4 Koffi, 5 Ana Wasblaash, 13-2 Youngster, 8 String Player, 10 Miss Never Hyde, Saffron Lord, 12 The Footman, 14 others.

Form: SAFFRON LORD (11-8 3l/2 4th) to Copse and Robbers (11-0) at Cheltenham (2m nov hdle, £4,357, soft, Dec 7, 15 ran) with CASTIGLIONE (11-0) 10th and COURTLANDS-GIRL (10-9 11th). STRING PLAYER (11-0) beat Senor Ramos (10-7) 6l at Haydock (2m Nov hdle, £1,170, soft, Dec 12, 18 ran). ANA WASBLAASH (11-0) 5l 2nd to That's Your Lot (11-3) at Lingfield (2m nov hdle, £2,783, good to soft, Dec 7, 8 ran) with EL GALLEO (11-0) ¾l back in 3rd (subsequently disqualified) and CHRISTO (11-0) 21½ further adrift in 4th (promoted to 3rd). BALLYARRY (11-0) beat Weesec (11-0) ¾l at Haydock (2m 4f nov hdle, £1,730, good, Nov 21, 12 ran). KOFFI (10-10) beat CASTIGLIONE (10-10) 7l at Worcester (2m nov hdle, £661, good to soft, Dec 4, 21 ran). THE FOOTMAN disappointing behind That's Your Lot last time; previously (11-1) 5l 2nd to Thawborn (11-4) at Ascot (2m nov hdle, £3,500, firm, Nov 16, 8 ran). MISS NEVER HYDE (120-9) 10½l 3rd to Watford Gap (11-0) at Taunton (2m 1f nov hdle, £952, good, Dec 5, 16 ran) with BEN'S SURPRISE (11-0) 12th.

Selection: BALLYARRY.

2.5 CORAL WELSH GRAND NATIONAL HANDICAP CHASE (£21,260: 3m 6f) (18)

301	11223-3	RIGHTHAND MAN (CD) (Mrs M Haggas) Mrs M Dickinson 8-11-7	G Bradley
303	160-622	WEST TIP (BF) (P Luck) M Oliver 8-11-0	R Dunwoody
304	112s1-0	RHYME 'N'REASON (Miss J Read) D Murray Smith 5-10-11	F Berry
305	123-121	RUN AND SKIP (W Marzouk) J Spearing 7-10-8 (4 ex)	P Scudamore
306	21-0110	PEATY SANDY (D) (BF) (Miss H Hamilton) Miss H Hamilton 11-10-5	Mr A Dudgeon
308	1321-11	PLANETMAN (Mrs J Lane) Mrs N Dickinson 8-10-1	R Earnshaw
309	42-3131	KUMBI (D Lunt) D McCain 10-10-0	S Smith Eccles
311	164-111	BROADHEATH (C) (M Marais) D Barons 8-10-9	J J O'Neill
312	4306/8-1	BROOMY BANK (Capt J Lumsden) J Edwards 10-10-0	P Barton
313	41p1f-4	GLYDE COURT (C Crank) F Winter 8-10-0	S Sherwood
314	0p0-00f	SOINTULLA BOY (Mrs H Houlbrooke) Mrs H Houlbrooke 10-10-0	Mr T Houlbrooke
315	4413-06	CORBIERE (CD) (B Burrough) Mrs J Pitman 10-10-0	B de Haan
316	p241-1	BRIGHT DREAM (C) (H Jost) J Gifford 9-10-0	R Rowe
317	33-p0P0	GOLDEN TY IV (Y Hall) G Hall 7-10-0	Mr A Orkney 7
319	11321-2	SMITH'S MAN (Smith Maryfield Mots) Mrs J Pitman 7-10-0	M Perrett
320	121100	COSLEY EXPRESS (C) (S Isaac) S Isaac 9-10-0	R Millman
323	042230	COVENT GARDEN (B) (G Parton) W Clay 7-10-0	S-J O'Neill
324	s/3-044	CHAIR OF KILDARE (T Hall) T Hall 10-10-0	P Dever

1994: Righthand Man 7-11-5 G Bradley (5-1) Mrs M Dickinson 18 ran

4 Planetman, 9-2 Righthand Man, 5 Rhyme 'N' Reason, 13-2 West Tip, 8 Corbiere, 10 Smiths Man, Bright Dream, 12 Run And Skip, Broomy Bank, 14 others.

FORM: RIGHTHAND MAN 2nd to Why Forget on latest run; last season (11-5) won corresponding race by 7l from Lucky Vane (11-2) with PLANETMAN (10-0) 3l back in 3rd, KUMBI (10-5) 11½l back in 5th and PEATY SANDY (10-9) always behind (3m 5f h'cap ch, £19,132, soft, Dec 22, 16 ran). This season KUMBI (11-7) beat Glenfox (10-5) 1½l at Sandown (3m 5f h'cap ch, £3,707, Dec 22, 18 ran). WEST TIP (10-7) 8l 2nd to Door Latch (10-2) at Ascot (3m h'cap ch, £12,505, good, Dec 14, 8 ran) with CORBIERE (10-0) 15l back in 6th. RUN AND SKIP (10-9) 12l 2nd to Galway Blaze (10-0) in Haydock (Newbury, 3m 2f h'cap ch, £17,474, good to firm, Nov 23, 15 ran) with GLYDE COURT (10-2) 6l back in 4th, RHYME 'N' REASON (11-2) 13l further back in 5th and COSLEY EXPRESS (10-0) 8th. Last season RHYME 'N' REASON (10-6) beat Seskin Bridge (10-12) in Irish Grand National (3m 4f h'cap ch, IR27,522, soft, Apr 8, 23 ran). PLANETMAN (11-7) beat SMITHS MAN (10-9) 1½l at Nottingham (3m 4f h'cap ch, £3,150, good, Dec 7, 11 ran) with CORBIERE (11-0) 15l back in 5th. BROOMY BANK (11-7) beat Charter Party (11-7) 10l at Worcester (3m 5f h'cap ch, £2,590, good to soft, Dec 4, 9 ran) with COVENT GARDEN (10-2) 7l back in 3rd.

Selection: PLANETMAN.

2.40 NEWSBOY HANDICAP CHASE (£2,129: 2m 4f) (18)

403	p-u2s20	REGAL PLEASURE (Mrs W Dixon Stroud) J Webber 7-11-7	G Mernagh
404	224112/	CARE (S Sainsbury) T Forster 8-11-6	R Dunwoody
406	01151-0	SOCKS DONNE (C Cowley) J King 6-11-5	P Scudamore
409	1111/1	THE THATCHER (D) (H Jost) J Gifford 7-11-2	R Rowe
410	000022	BRIDGWATER (D Pitcher) D Pitcher 9-11-0	Mr D Pitcher
411	0u-006B	BLAZING WIND (B) (D) (G Clay) Mrs W Sykes 9-11-0	P Warner
413	1d310-1	JOHNS PRESENT (D) (P Denling) R Holder 7-10-13 (5 ex)	P Richards
414	12101/1	BIG JAKE (J Robinson) A Turnell 9-10-9	E Wales
415	420/p-6	LEBELUC (Miss S Waterman) Miss S Waterman 9-10-9	Miss S Waterman
416	03/00-0	TOULOUSE (B) (Mrs B Cobden) J Cobden 10-10-8	S Shilston
419	2110-0f	DOLL LADS (D) (Mrs T Bulgin) T Bulgin 9-10-5	S Sherwood
421	2020-30	TUDOR ROAD (D) (Stockar) L Kennard 10-10-4	B Powell
423	0-13044	THORNTON (CD) (P Tuckey) S Mellor 9-10-2	P Tuck
424	43224-2	VIRGIN SOLDIER (D) (Mrs J Dibben) J Old 8-10-2	G Bradley
426	44246-2	RIVER WARRIOR (D) (J M Bradley) J Bradley 7-10-0	G Davies
427	03f130-	BROUGHTON LAD (R Chugg) R Chugg 12-10-0	J D Doyle 4
428	0p-0400	ROBO (J J Price) J Price 14-10-0	G Jones
429	004pp/	PURSEBEARER (E Retter) E Retter 9-10-0	A Jones

1994: Misty Fort 6-10-7 R Dunwoody (12-1) T Forster 13 ran

7-2 The Thatcher, 4 Regal Pleasure, 9-2 Johns Present, 6 Virgin Soldier, 8 River Warrior, Care, 10 Bridgwater, 12 Thornton, 14 others.

3.10 SCOUT NOVICE CHASE (4-y-o: £1,354: 2m) (13)

501	000-3p0	ALEXANDRA PALACE (H Corbox) J Gifford 10-12	R Rowe
503	000-143	CHEZARI (C Saxton) D Elsworth 10-12	R Arnott 4
504	0	GREEN IVY (Mrs C Williams) A Turnell 10-12	Steve Knight
505	400p2-	MEDIA BOY (Mrs H Popham) Mrs N Smith 10-12	R Dunwoody
506	0024/0-0	NON-CONFORMIST C Hodges) M Pipe 10-12	P Leach
507	1p0-440	PUKKA MAJOR (D Dorey) O Sherwood 10-12	S Sherwood
508	p0p-p30	STANAUDBOO (Mrs P Townley) R Champion 10-12	P Scudamore
509	0	VARINGEN (G Schjelderup) G Balding 10-12	A Frick
510	p0-0	WEYMOUTH BAY (W Coombe) M Coombe 10-12	B Powell
511	0-0000	YALISKARI (Miss J Eaton) Miss J Eaton 10-12	P Barry
512	000	AMNAGH GLOW (C Carver) P Butler 10-7	M Furlong
513	04-000	CHRISETT (V Hall) G Hall 10-7	Mr A Orkney 7
514	00	GREEN BLOSSOM (D Jones) R Perkins 10-7	A Gardner 7

1994: Nudge Nudge 10-12 R Lamb (9-4) S Mellor 8 ran

11-8 Pukka Major, 11-4 Chezari, 6 Media Boy, 8 Alexandra Palace, 12 Stanaudboo, Varingen, 16 others.

3.40 KINGSBRIDGE HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,149: 2m 4f) (21)

601	21128/0	TENTH OF OCTOBER (T Ferris) S Mellor 5-11-12	G Landau 7
603	0302/02/	THURSTON (D) (Data Advisers Ltd) D Barons 9-11-8	P Dever
604	4/31-p	MASTER CONE (M G Reid) M Reid 8-11-4	NON-RUNNER
605	169p-06	MITILINI (D) (J Taylor) B Preece 5-11-2	P Barton
606	1240-43	HIGHLAND GOLD (D) (J Hailewood) D McCain 5-11-1	J J O'Neill
607	0-22000	LAMBERT HALL (Lord Daventry) M Tate 7-10-13	P Scudamore
609	00-4220	KIM STEEL (R Robbins) P Cundell 5-10-10	Mr G Cowley 7
610	3p0-000	SUPPER'S READY (Mrs M Smith) W Morris 7-10-8	S Sherwood
613	32240-0	QUITE A NIGHT (G Radmore) D Oughton 5-10-5	R Rowe
614	0030p-	SYMPATIQUE (T Bissett) Miss E Sneyd 7-10-5	Lorna Vincent
616	208-000-	HIGH HEAVER (J Heal) A Moore 7-10-2	M Perrett
619	0000-00	FRIENDLY HENRY (B) (R Wright) J Fox 5-10-2	S Moore
620	2-3340	HARVEST FORTUNE (B) (D Hebditch) L Kennard 5-10-2	B Powell
621	12-0000	LORD'S GLORY (D) (L Gerard) G Yardley 5-10-0	R Dunwoody
626	33000/0	PATERNOSTER ROW (K Griffiths) D Hayden Jones 8-10-0	F Berry
627	p4/0002	DO OR DIE (B) (BF) (Mrs L O'Neill) O O'Neill 8-10-0	T Williams
630	60-400-	HYDE (I Anderson) I Anderson 8-10-0	W Knox 4
631	rp40-	LEILAWAY (T J Price) T Price 5-10-0	G Davies
632	1/40000	TESTING TIMES (Miss S Waterman) Miss S Waterman 8-10-0	Miss S Waterman
634	2f00-00	HOPE GAP (F G Hollis) F Hollis 9-10-0	R Millman
635	p0/p-	MOSHI-MOSHI (A Stroud) A Stroud 11-10-0	J Brown 7

1994: La Lavador 5-10-4 A Carroll (8-1) Mrs R Lomax 21 ran

11-4 Highland Gold, 9-2 Master Cone, 6 Harvester Fortune, 7 Quite A Night, 8 Rig Steel, 10 Millini, Do Or Die, 12 Supper's Ready, 15 others.

LINGFIELD PARK Ch4

[Televised: 12.45, 1.15, 1.45, 2.15]

Going: soft

11.45 TOTE PLACE ONLY NOVICE CHASE (Div I:) £1,242: 2m 4f: (13 runners)

6	10-00	CAPTAIN COURAGE D Barons 7-11-2	-
8	2f3-f	CLARA MOUNTAIN T Foster 6-11-2	H Davies
9	4003-	DALBURY A Moore 7-11-2	G Moore
11	fp/2f	DUNKIRK M Francis 9-11-2	M Richards
15	04-34	IT'S TOUGH S Woodman 8-11-2	C Brown
16	2fp-0	LEWESDON PRINCE S Christianson 8-11-2	W Newton
18	40/0P0	RAJENS AIR Mrs S Waring 8-11-2	George Knight
21	10/4-0	SAUCY DANCER Miss B Sanders 11-11-2	-
23	0/402-u	STEEL YEOMAN J Gifford 7-11-2	E Murphy 4
27	p-004	WORDEL Mrs R Murdoch 7-11-2	J Akehurst
31	330-4	POLITBURO J Bridger 5-11-0	R Goldstein
32	612-0	REPENT D Weeden 5-11-0	D Murphy 4
35	3p3-p	KINGMON'S GIRL J Long 8-10-11	R Rowe

1994: No corresponding race

5-2 Clara Mountain, 7-2 Dunkirk, 4 Dalbury, 13-2 Steel Yeoman, 8 It's Tough, 12 Captain Courage, 16 others.

Lingfield selections

By Mandarin

11.45 Clara Mountain. 12.15 Marley Roofus. 12.45 Cumrew. 1.15 Wily Yeoman. 1.45 Western Sunset. 2.15 Opening Bars. 2.50 Larry-O. 3.25 Tsarella.

12.15 HORSERACE TOTALISATOR BOARD NOVICE HURDLE (Div I: 3-y-o: £601: 2m)

1	9	ALCAZABA J D Davies 10-10	G Heaver 7
6		DONOOR P Burgoyne 10-10	V McKevitt
9		FRISCO R Akehurst 10-10	-
10		GAELIC RAMBLER A Jarvis 10-10	T Jarvis 4
11	00	GET AWAY R Frost 10-10	J Frost
12		GWYN HOWARD A Pitt 10-10	R McGhin
14	0323	MARELITO (B) (BF) G prest 10-10	-
15	0	MARLEY RUFUS M Haynes 10-10	R Goldstein
21		ROYAL NAP T Jones 10-10	H Davies
22	4	SOUTHERN STORM B Wise 10-10	R Rowell
23	00	STAR SECRET (B) D Elsworth 10-10	C Brown
24		STORM HOUSE Mrs J Pitman 10-10	M Pitman 4
25	3	SYMPHYTUM (B) G Hufter 10-10	J McLaughlin
26	p4	THINTY ACRE P Haynes 10-10	A Webb
27	0	UNSCOL S Mellor 10-10	G Charles-Jones
29		VOLLEY CHERRY C Hodges P Pipe 10-10	P Leach
32		CLAIRGATE A Moores 10-5	A Doyle 4
33	0p0	GOLDEN JUNE D C Tucker 10-5	-
39		PRIORY MAID J O'Donoghue 10-5	R G Hughes
40		SIRDAR GIRL D Weeden 10-5	D Murphy 4
42	pp	THERESA () G Blum 10-5	J Barlow

1994: Opening Bars 11-2 P Double (15-8 fav) D Oughton 20 ran.

100-30 Southern Storm, 4 Symphytum, 5 Storm House, 6 Get Away, 8 Thirty Acre, 10 Marlello, 12 Marley Rufus, 14 others.

12.45 TOTE NOVICE HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,948: 2m 4f) (18)

5	30-01	CUMREW (B) N Vigors 5-11-7	C Cox 7
7	2-010	AUSTRIAN CORPORAL (D) P Bowden 7-11-3	R Dennis 4
8	04-30	FLYING OFFICER (B) M Pipe 8-11-3	J Lower 7
9	0004-	HERE'S THE DOC J Bridger 7-11-2	M Kinane
10	2104	BE MY LUCK R Hodges 4-11-1	Mr P MacEwan 7
11	0-200	LUCKY CHARLIE F Winter 5-11-1	J Duggan
12	0-0	SUNDAY BANG D Barons 5-11-0	R Goldstein
14	b00-2	PERRERO--KINDER P Cundell 5-10-13	A Gorman
15	000-	ST ANDREW'S BAY T Forster 5-10-12	H Davies
16	00-04	TELEPHONE NUMBERS A Moore 5-10-11	Miss C Moore 7
17	040-0	GREGGANA H Beasley 5-10-9	R Goldstein
18	00-0	COOL SUN Mrs J Pitman 5-10-9	M Pitman 4
19	0-00f	SHALLET WALDEGG D Gandolfo 5-10-8	-
20	0220-	SAILORS REVENGE D Grissell 7-10-8	R Rowell
21	00-33	AIRBORNE DEAL A Moore 5-10-8	G Moore
22	0321-	MIDNIGHT MADNESS D Bloomfield 7-10-7	L Bloomfield 4
24	02-00	ATKINS G Enright 4-10-6	R Chapman
25	044	HOWAREYOUDOING (BF) S Mellor 8-10-5	G Charles-Jones

1994: Gold Of A Gunner 4-11-1 G Charles-Jones (11-4 fav) S Mellor 13 ran.

3 Ferrero-Kinder, 9-2 Cumrew, 5 Telephone Numbers, 11-2 By My Luck, 7 Austrian Corporal, 8 Flying Officer, 12 Airborne Deal, 14 Lucky Charlie, 20 others.

1.15 BET WITH THE TOTE HANDICAP CHASE (£2,389: 2m) (5)

1	10040-	LEFT BANK (D) T Forster 7-11-10	H Davies
3	140-1p	BRIGHT MORNING D Grissell 7-11-3	C Brown
4	2414/2-	THE FOODBROKER (B) P Haynes 9-11-1	A Webb
6	-211-2	WILY YEOMAN (J Gifford 6-10-13	E Murphy 4
7	1338-

Law Report December 21 1985

Weapon still prohibited after removal of vital parts

Regina v Clarke (Frederick)

Before Lord Justice Ackner, Mr Justice French and Mr Justice Saville

[Judgment delivered December 19]

A firearms dealer who possessed a sub-machine-gun from which the trigger, pivot pin and magazine were missing, possessed a "prohibited weapon" within section 5(1)(a) of the Firearms Act 1968, and a firearms certificate which he held under section 1 was insufficient for possession required a certificate from the secretary of state under section 5.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment dismissing an appeal by Frederick Clarke, aged 51, a firearms dealer, of Dendridge Close, Enfield, Middlesex, against conviction at Wood Green Crown Court (Judge Gerber) on a change of plea after rejection of a submission of no case to answer on a count charging possession of a prohibited weapon, contrary to section 5(1)(a). He was given an absolute discharge.

Mr Andrew Maitland for the appellant; Mr Jeremy Carter-Manning for the Crown.

MR JUSTICE FRENCH, giving the judgment of the court, said that the appeal was brought on the trial judge's certificate questioning whether he was correct in having ruled that the gun was a prohibited weapon considering *R v Pannell* ([1982) 76 Cr App R 53) and *R v Jobling* ([1981] Crim L R 625).

Section 5 (1) made it an offence if a person "without the authority of the secretary of state . . . has in his possession . . . (a) any firearm which is so designed or adapted that, if pressure is applied to the trigger, missiles continue to be discharged until pressure is removed from the trigger or the magazine containing the missiles is empty".

Weapons specified in subsection (1) were "prohibited weapons" according to section 5 (2).

The firearms which section 1 controlled by the need for a certificate were "lethal barrelled weapons" whereas the weapons referred to in section 5(1) – weapons capable of continuous fire – were lethal barrelled weapons which were prohibited weapons no doubt because of their greater lethal capacity.

Police with a warrant searched premises in London where the appellant traded perfectly respectably as a firearms dealer. Certain weapons together with the appellant's firearms register were seized and, on a later visit, the police took away a Carl Gustav sub-machine-gun which was incomplete in that it had no trigger, pivot pin or magazine. The weapon was recorded in the firearms register which the Act required him to keep.

The appellant explained that he possessed a firearms certificate for himself and his company in relation to weapons to which section 1(1) applied. He said that the auctioneer from whom he had bought the Carl Gustav gun had informed him that because it was incomplete it was controlled by section 1 and was not prohibited by section 5.

The officers could not find on the appellant's premises any trigger, pivot pin or magazine which could be used with the weapon.

A police forensic scientist, who had specialised in the examination of firearms, said that the weapon had been designed for fully automatic fire only.

The trigger, pivot pin and magazine were missing when he examined it. He had attempted to fire the gun but had been unable to do so until he had tied a piece of string across the sear and round the trigger guard so that tension on the string could depress the sear and operate the gun. It took a minute or two to tie the string in the manner described. He had filled a magazine, borrowed from the police laboratory armoury, with ammunition and was able to achieve continuous fire by tension on the string. He had been able to discontinue firing by taking his finger off the string.

Without a magazine the gun was useless as a weapon even if the expedient of a piece of string to replace the trigger was adopted. A replacement trigger could be made in a matter of hours. It would take two days or so to manufacture a magazine.

Mr Maitland urged that the assembled components of a Carl Gustav gun, which the police had seized, comprised an incomplete weapon which was not capable, because it was incomplete, of continuous fire. Because only a weapon so capable at the time of the alleged possession fell within section 5(1)(a) component parts of an incomplete "continuous fire" weapon could not constitute a firearm despite section 57(1)(b) – which defined a firearm to include "any component part of . . . a, . . . prohibited weapon".

In *Jobling*, Mr Justice Taylor withdrew a case from the jury on a submission at the close of the Crown's case in which the facts were similar to those of the instant case. The weapon was a Bren sub-machine-gun which had been modified by the removal of a small piece of metal so that the automatic mode could not be selected and the weapon was therfore capable of firing only single shots.

In *Pannell* the appellant who had been found in possession of the component parts of three 9mm Stirling carbines which had been stripped down, had been convicted under section 5(1)(a). The weapons were originally designed to fire either automatically or one shot at a time. A rod had been inserted into the trigger mechanisms to produce a weapon that would fire only single shots. However it was possible to fire several shots in succession if pressure could be sustained to hold the trigger in a particular position.

Giving the judgment of the Court of Appeal, Lord Justice Eveleigh said that it was a firearm designed to achieve continuous fire, and it clearly was. It had been adapted for the purpose of converting it to a single-shot weapon but nothing had been done to convert it to one of a different character. It was less efficient as an automatic weapon than it had been but it did not cease to be one designed as such.

Pannell had to be taken as overruling *Jobling*. Their Lordships agreed with Lord Justice Eveleigh that the words in section 5 were descriptive of an individual weapon at the time that a defendant was alleged to have been in possession of it.

They did not overlook the possibility that a firearm which was designed or adapted to perform in the manner set out in section 5 (1)(a) might cease to be so. A lethal barrelled weapon might be so damaged or altered whether by accident or design or by the removal of so many components that it was no longer something that could be fairly described as a "weapon".

On the other hand, a firearm which was designed or adapted for automatic fire still remained so designed despite the fact that an essential component such as the trigger might be missing.

There was another and more clear-cut basis upon which the judge's decision could be supported. The words of section 57(1)(b) specifically applied to a "prohibited weapon". If the words of section 57(1)(b) were read into section 5(1)(a), then it provided: "A person commits an offence if, without the authority of the secretary of state, he has in his possession . . . any component part of any firearm which is so designed that, if pressure is applied to the trigger, missiles continue to be discharged" and so on.

The appellant admittedly had in his possession at the very least a component part of a prohibited weapon.

The judge was correct in overruling the submission of no case.

The appeal had to be dismissed.

Solicitors: Ward Bowie; Solicitor, Metropolitan Police.

Ancient writ is available

Al Nahkel for Contracting and Trading Ltd v Lowe

Before Mr Justice Tudor Price

[Judgment delivered December 18]

The ancient remedy of a writ *ne exeat regno* was available in support of a *Mareva* injunction (issued to prevent a potential party to an action disposing of assets in the jurisdiction) to prevent a defendant fleeing the jurisdiction with assets in order to defeat a lawful claimant before the court.

The issue of the writ should be to the tipstaff and the form of the writ adapted to require him to bring the arrested defendant before the judge forthwith or as soon as possible to enable the judge to make any appropriate further order at once, for example to discharge or vary the writ or leave it in operation together with such other supplementary order as the circumstances dictated.

Mr Justice Tudor Price so held in the Queen's Bench Division when he gave reasons, in open court, for his grant in chambers on December 6, 1985, of leave to the plaintiff, on an *ex parte* application, for the issue of a writ to restrain the defendant from leaving the United Kingdom unless he gave security for £14,000.

Mr Richard Slowe for the plaintiff.

MR JUSTICE TUDOR PRICE, emphasising that nothing had been proved against the defendant since there had not yet been a trial, said that the defendant was employed by the plaintiff company as a sales manager in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.

He was suspected of corruption, obtained his passport by an admitted ruse, collected considerable sums of money owed to his employers in Mecca, and flew to London on December 5, where he was met by representatives of his employers and the police who had been alerted to his arrival.

He handed over cheques made payable to his employers but refused to hand over the money claiming that it represented his savings. He was not detained by the police but he told them he intended to fly to the Philippines the next day. On that basis, the plaintiff applied for a *Mareva* injunction.

Mr Slowe submitted that even if the *Mareva* injunction could be served upon the defendant, it would be likely to be frustrated by his leaving the jurisdiction at once.

From the facts, it was clear, in his Lordship's view, that there was prima facie every reason to suppose that without the writ the defendant would not have been prevented from leaving the jurisdiction with the allegedly stolen money.

After the writ was issued, the defendant was arrested at the airport, was unable to give security for the money alleged to be stolen, was brought to the High Court by the tipstaff, and, before his Lordship, having given certain undertakings, was released. The matter was now resolved between the parties.

His Lordship said that in *Felton v Callis* ([1969] 1 QB 200), Mr Justice Megarry traced the historical development of the writ and held that, though extant, the writ could only issue if four requirements of section 6 of the Debtors Act 1869, which were applicable by analogy, were satisfied.

Those conditions were: (1) that the action was one in which the defendant would formerly (that is, before the 1869 Act) have been liable to arrest at law, (2) a good cause of action for at least £50 was established, (3) there was probably cause for believing that the defendant was about to quit England unless he was arrested, and (4) his absence from England would materially prejudice the plaintiff in the prosecution of his action.

Mr Justice Megarry emphasised that because of its drastic character, the standard of proof on the applicant was high, and that even if all four conditions were fulfilled it remained a discretionary remedy.

He said (at p 217): "A tool of the law, if of any utility, ought not to be left to rust away through ignorance of its existence. As it seems to me, the writ is still extant, though closely circumscribed in its applicability; and improved means of travel have certainly not lessened its utility."

His Lordship said that doubtless due to the rapid and radical development of the *Mareva* jurisdiction, the writ was rarely if at all used since *Felton v Callis* was decided in 1968.

In the present case, the four conditions were satisfied and it was a proper exercise of discretion to give leave to issue the writ. In a necessarily small number of cases, in his Lordship's view, the additional power in support of the *Mareva* order was capable of assisting the cause of justice.

In *Yiu Wing Construction Company (Overseas) Ltd v Ghosh* (unreported, February 21, 1985) Mr Justice Anthony Evans, in a hearing in chambers, was of the opinion that such a writ could be issued to ensure that a defendant, by leaving the jurisdiction, did not defeat the very purpose for which a *Mareva* order had been granted.

As to the form of the writ, in *Daniell's Chancery Forms* (1932) (pp756, 758) the form for the writ commanded the sheriff to take the defendant who did not give security "to our next prison" without limit of time.

Although section 34(1) of the Prison Act 1952 preserved the jurisdiction of the sheriff in some respects, it was clearly undesirable and could lead to practical difficulties to commit the defendant to prison. His Lordship considered that at the present time the writ should be issued to the tipstaff rather than to the sheriff.

Solicitors: Alistair Porter & Co.

Arrest not susceptible to contempt Act ban

Regina v Rhuddlan Justices, Ex parte HTV Ltd

Before Lord Justice Watkins and Mr Justice Nolan

[Judgment delivered December 18]

An arrest did not fall within the meaning of "legal proceedings held in public" in section 4(1) of the Contempt of Court Act 1981. The justices therefore did not have power to make an order under section 4(2) of that Act prohibiting the broadcasting of a film of the defendant's arrest.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held allowing an application by HTV Ltd for judicial review of an order of the Rhuddlan Justices of December 12, 1985 under section 4(2) of the 1981 Act prohibiting the reporting or showing of film on television of any matter in connection with the legal proceedings before the court other than the name and address of the defendant, the nature of the charge and the decision of the court, the order to be in force until sentence on January 16, 1986.

Mr Patrick Moloney for HTV; Mr *Maurice Kay for the defendant*; the justices did not appear and were not represented.

LORD JUSTICE WATKINS said that the issue was what was meant by the words "legal proceedings held in public" in section 4(1) and (2) of the 1981 Act.

The defendant had in September been arrested and charged with the possession of drugs. The police officer who made the arrest was accompanied by a camera crew of HTV who wished to include the film of the arrest in a programme on the trafficking of drugs.

Before the justices the defendant pleaded guilty and was represented by a solicitor who, having heard of the defendant's inclusion in the film, invited the justices to make the order under section 4(2). The justices, advised by their clerk and with the agreement of the prosecuting solicitor, made the order complained of.

Quite clearly if a showing of the film of the arrest were followed by a contested hearing then a consideration of the provisions of sections 1 and 2 of the Act would have to be made as what happened on arrest might prejudice the conduct of the trial. But that was not the case here.

It was argued on behalf of the defendant that upon the proper construction of section 4, "proceedings" embraced not only what went on in court but also whatever preceded it. In particular it was contended that it related to an arrest.

The purpose of the enactment was perfectly plain. It was difficult to see what the words "legal proceedings held in public" could mean save that they meant proceedings held in court on the charge of a person of a criminal offence. That must apply to subsections (1) and (2) under which the justices purported to make the order.

There was mild criticism of the form of the order which it was said ought to have conformed to the strict wording of subsection (2). That was right.

In cases such as this where television companies or journalists sought to report matters which might prove embarrassing or prejudice a trial the proper remedy was for the person affected to seek an injunction in the High Court. The order would be quashed.

Mr Justice Nolan agreed.

Solicitors: Phillips & Buck, Cardiff; Thomas Andrews Humphrys & Co, Rhyl.

Statutory code supersedes inherent power

R v Buckinghamshire County Council

The decision of an adoption panel that the plaintiffs, who had cared for the ward as short-term foster parents, were not suitable as the proposed adopters was a decision of the local authority pursuant to the powers and duties imposed and confirmed on a local authority by the statutory code and the High Court was precluded by statute from reviewing the decision under prerogative wardship jurisdiction.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Purchas and Lord Justice Stephen Brown) so held on December 18 when dismissing an appeal from Mrs Justice Booth who had terminated the wardship on December 10, 1985 on the application of the local authority.

LORD JUSTICE PURCHAS said that it had been submitted that there was a residual inherent jurisdiction within the prerogative wardship jurisdiction to review, in the context of wardship proceedings, decisions relating to children.

Reliance had been placed on a passage in *A v Liverpool City Council* ([1982] AC 363, 373, 377). But it was clear from that case and from *In re W (The Times* May 3, 1985: [1985] 2 WLR 892) that the statutory code was to prevail.

Correction

In *R v Secretary of State for the Environment, Ex parte Greenwich London Borough Council (The Times* December 19) the order appealed from was made by Mr Justice McNeill.

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or telephoned (by persons subscribing only) to: 01-837 3311 or 01-837 3333.

Personal Columns Display Manager: 01-278 9161 or 01-278 9162.

Announcements can be received by telephone between 9.00am and 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, on Saturday between 9.00am and 12.00noon. (837 3311 only). For publication the following day, phone by 1.30pm.

FORTHCOMING MARRIAGES, WEDDINGS, etc. on Court and Social Page, £6 a line + 15% VAT. Court and Social Page announcements can not be accepted by telephone. Enquiries to: 01-837 1234 Ex 7114.

Most other classified advertisements can be accepted by telephone. The deadline is 5.00pm 2 days prior to publication (e.g. 5.00 pm Monday for Wednesday). Should you wish to send an advertisement in writing please include your daytime phone number. Every endeavour will be made to insert advertisements on dates requested but cannot be guaranteed. Readers are advised to satisfy themselves as to the information contained in advertisements, or to seek professional advice, before entering into any commitment.

. . . HE that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still. And, behold, I come quickly. Revelation 22: 11, 12.

BIRTHS

ASHWANDEN—On December 10th in Oakville, Ontario, to Joanna (née Scott) and James, a son, David James Scott.

CAPES. – On December 18, a daughter, Alexandra, to Mark and Tamara.

CLARK. – On December 16th at West London Hospital, to Emma (née Campbell) and Nigel, a daughter, Natasha Jane.

CROWNE. On December 17 to Elizabeth (nee Long) and Stephen, a son James Edward, a brother for Charles.

DURNETT-GALLEY. – On December 14 to Anne and Bruce, a son, Robert Michael Buchanan, half brother to Alistair.

FOSTER. – On December 6 at St James's Hospital, Leeds, to Kate and Peter, a son, Edward David, a brother for Caroline.

HAWKER. – On December 16 at Heatherwood Hospital, Ascot to Cathy (nee Gardner) and Charlie a son, Benjamin Charles.

MACCOY. – On 12th December in Nairobi to Janette (nee Pattinson) and Michael – a son (Thomas Edward) brother for Emily.

MANSOUR. – On December 14 in Liverpool to Deborah and Michael a son Jonathan Joseph Edward.

PAGE. – On December 18th, to Celia (nee Carey) and Christopher, a son, Edmund John.

PANTON. On December 18th to Penny (nee Otter) and Tom, a son, George – brother of Jo.

PLATFORD. – On December 10th, 1985, to Gill and Graham, a daughter – Charlotte Elizabeth Lucy, a sister for Sophie. Delivered with supreme efficiency and happiness at Mile End Hospital.

SMITH. – On December 6th, at Ronkswood Hospital, Worcester, to Julie and Mark, a son, William.

TYRRELL—On December 20th at Whittington Hospital, Highgate to Jacqueline (née Pallialove) and Simon a son Rupert William.

MARRIAGES

HUGGINS – LOW. On Sunday, 15th December, in Hong Kong, Sir Alan Armstrong Huggins to Mrs Elizabeth Low nee Dodd.

GOLDEN WEDDING

DURAND-KIRCHNER – on Saturday, 21st December, 1935 at the Temple Church, Victor to Betty.

DEATHS

ALEXANDER. Peacefully at home, star house, Capel Llanilarne, Gwent, on 18th December, 1985. Duncan Hubert Harold, loved husband of Bobby and father of Jane, Sally and Gill. Funeral, immediate family only. No flowers. Memorial service to be announced later.

AYRE, James Lewis, BSc Tech, PhD, CEng, FI Mech E. – On 20th December, aged 84, peacefully after a short illness in his home in Heaton, Northumberland.

BEAVAN. – On December 20th 1985 peacefully in hospital Lieutenant-Colonel William Franklin Beavan, OBE DL JP. Beloved father, grandfather and great-grandfather. Funeral Haliton Parish Church, Monday, December 23rd at 2.30 pm. No flowers, but donations if desired, to D.O.A. c/o Mrs D. Kerr-Wilson, Mynevin, Nant Glyn, Denbigh, Clwyd.

BORTON. – On December 19, Stuart of Winchester, aged 78. Beloved husband of Elizabeth and much loved father and grandfather. Donations if desired to R.N.I.B. c/o John Steel & Son Ltd, Chesil House, Winchester. 63196.

BRAYE, Thomas Adrian, 7th Baron aged 85, fortified by the last rites of Church on 19th December 1985. Greatly loved husband of Dorothea, father of Penelope Aubrey-Fletcher and Father-in-law of Richard, funeral at the Church of St Nicholas, Stanford-on-Avon on Monday 30th December 1985 at 2.30pm. Family flowers only. Donations if wished to the International Red Cross, c/o Walton & Taylor 16 Railway Terrace, Rugby, Warwickshire.

COUNCELL. – On December 19th, in hospital, Joan Katharine, aged 74 years, of Pencabe, Portscatho, widow of Sam and mother of Kate, Tim, Paul and Jane. Funeral at Trilawny Chapel, Penmount Crematorium, Truro, on Monday, December 23rd, at 12 noon.

CRIPPS. – Peacefully on 15th December, 1985, Isobel Dora, aged 72, eldest daughter of the late Stafford and Isobel Cripps.

CROOK – On December 19th at St Anne's, Ormskirk, Walter Benedict Crook, monk of Douai Abbey. Funeral at Douai Abbey on Monday 23rd December at 2pm.

DEQUESA – On December 18th, 1985, suddenly Anthony Phillip, OBE. Funeral at St Whilfred's Church, Wimbledon, on December 24th, at 10am. 11am Mitcham New Cemetery.

FIRTH. On 20th December, 1985, peacefully at home Ruth Kirsteen, aged 93, wife of the late Colonel Cecil Firth M.C. and loving mother of Malcolm.

GLASSBROW – On December 17, Joyce, beloved wife of David and beloved mother of April and Julie. Funeral service at 2pm on Monday, 23 December at Holy Trinity Church, Cookham, Berkshire.

GRANGE, Jack. – On December 17th, 1985, peacefully at his home, Bryn Mair, Birch Grove, Woodland Park, Prestatyn, dearly beloved husband of Agnes. Requiem Mass on Monday 23rd December at St Peter and Frances Catholic Church, Prestatyn, at 11am, followed by interment at St Mary's cemetery, Swinton, Manchester at 1.30. No flowers by request, all donations in his memory to The Glan Clwyd Body Scanner c/o Old Cottage Hospital, Mostyn, Flints. All enquiries to T. O. Jones & Son. Tel: Prestatyn 3949.

GREEN – On December 18 in London, after protracted illness, Ronald, widower of Margery, dear father of Naomi and Michael, and grandfather of David and Anna, beloved companion of life and friend of all.

HARDY. Alice Ethel, MBE, aged 85. – On December 14th, 1985, in Devon, formerly of Dunstall and Malvern in Boston, Lincs, to the sorrow of her family and many friends.

HOLLINGTON. – On December 18th, suddenly but peacefully, Doctor Elspeth Mary, of Barnet, loving sister of Janet, Alison and John, much loved aunt and friend of many. Private cremation. Details of memorial service later.

HURLEY. – On December 19, Janet Eleanor, beloved wife and mother, peacefully after a long illness. Funeral on December 24th at St Margarets, Hasbury, Halesowen at noon followed by burial at St Mary's Church, Old Swinford. Family flowers only please, but donations may be made to Imperial Cancer Research Fund, Enquiries to T Brookes & Co, Brierley Hill 77098.

KRAUSE – Michael Egmund beloved son of Len and Elizabeth brother of Linda and Jeremy, peacefully in hospital on December 18, 1985 after years of illness, borne with courage and grace.

LERNER. – On December 13th 1985, suddenly, Lajos, aged 81, much loved father and grandfather. Service Putney Vale Crematorium SW15, Monday, December 23rd at 1.30pm. Family only. A memorial service will be announced later. Flowers may be sent to J. H. Kenyon, 49 Marloes Road, London W8.

LLOYD. Dr. John Peregrine Francis Lloyd, F.R.C.S., M.A. of Walderbeck, Oxford, passed peacefully away on December 19th, 1985. A private Funeral Service will take place on Monday December 23rd. A Thanksgiving Service will be held in St. Leonards Church, Walberswick, Oxford on Wednesday January 8th at 3.00 p.m.

MANNING – On 18th December, 1985, very suddenly Frank, husband of Sandra, father of Victor and Juliet, eldest brother of Elizabeth, Richard, Barbara and Luke. Funeral at Surrey and Sussex Crematorium, Balcombe Rd, Crawley, on Monday, 23rd December, at 4pm. Family flowers only please.

MATTOCK – Suddenly on December 18th, Richard Donald (Tony) of Moorlands Farm, Froggatt, Sheffield. Dearly loved and loving husband of Lieta, very dear father of Richard and Marion and a much loved father-in-law, grandfather and brother. Family funeral service at St Marys Church, Harby, Leicestershire on Monday, 23rd December at 10am followed by cremation and memorial service to be held in Sheffield early in the new year will be announced later. Enquiries to John Hewitt & Sons, funeral directors, 14 Earnshaw St, Sheffield.

RUBENS, Albert Edward—On 17th December, in Gloucester, aged 74, after a long illness, husband of Elspeth, father of Jennifer, Roger and Clive. Funeral service at Randcombe 1.30 Monday 23rd, followed by private cremation Cheltenham. All friends respectfully invited.

SAMER. – On December 19th, 1985, suddenly, at home at Berkhamsted, John Eric Lewis Samer, MCC, Middx, RMSC, SMSU. Dear husband of Ursula and father of Margaret, Susan, Heather, Peter and Robert. Enquiries 081 445 4596.

PERSONAL COLUMNS

Trade 01-837 2104 and 01-278 9232 Private 01-837 3333 or 3311

DEATHS

SARKIS, Leila (nee Kronfli) on December 19th, Wellington Hospital, London, beloved wife of Joseph and mother of Maha, Mona and Sami. Service at St Dunstan's Church, Bourne End, Bucks, Monday December 23rd 11 a.m.

SPENCER. – On December 19th, at home Harold, dearly loved husband of Nora, greatly loved father of Ann and Jim, father-in-law of Sheila and David and 'pop' to Nicky. Funeral on Monday, December 23rd, at St Peter and Pauls Church, Wisborough Green, at 3.30pm. Family flowers only, donations if desired to AFC, 1 Hurstlands, Billingshurst, West Sussex.

STEWART. Suddenly at home, on 18th December, 1985, Dr Iain Maxwell Stewart, RSC, LLD., dear husband of Anne and dear father of Vivian, Anne, Mark and Christopher. Private family service on London on 21st December. Memorial service to be arranged later.

WATKINS, Gillian (nee Fowler) on December 19th 1985 at home after a very long illness. Devotedly loving husband of Richard. Requiem Mass on December at 1.30pm at St. Thomas More Catholic Church, Lordship Lane (corner Eynsham Rd.) SE22. No flowers but donations to Radio Therapy Combined Oncology Fund, King's College Hospital, London SE5 9RS.

WILSON.— Dr Percy peacefully at home, on December 19th. Widow of Dr Donald Rooster Wilson, and mother of Sylvie, and Angela. She was much loved by all her family. The funeral will take place at Uffington Church, Bys Wills, on Monday, December 23rd, at 1.45pm, followed by cremation at Avon Vale, Bristol. Family flowers only please, donations in lieu to the Sue Ryder Foundation, Cavendish, Suffolk.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

CONSTANTINOU, ARISTOS, a memorial service for the life of Aristos Constantinou will be held at St Sophia's Cathedral, Moscow Road, Bayswater W2 on Friday, 27th December 1985 at 1.15 pm. Relatives and friends please arrive by 1 pm.

THOMPSON. – A service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Henry R. Thompson, F.R.C.S., will be held at St. Giles's Church, Cripplegate, The Barbican, London, on Saturday, January 18, at 11.30am.

IN MEMORIAM

DEEVES, Lilian Mary. Remembered on the 100th anniversary of her birth, December 22, 1885 and every day.

HOBBS – Sir John Berry – Jack Hobbs. Born 16-12-1882, died 21-12-1963. The greatest, the perfect batsman, the master.

POOLEY, DR. JOAN MARGARET, dedicated physician, devoted mother and darling wife. In constant loving memory of dear Jo, December 18th 1983.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NANNIES (Kensington). Wish all their friends a Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year. We will be closed from 23rd-30th December. 177 Kensington High Street W8.

"'TIS THE YEAR'S MIDNIGHT . . ." Literati celebrate St Lucy's Day (the shortest) with lucid measures of The Macallan The Malt. It's the Donne thing.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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FOR SALE

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Growing up is more depressing and difficult today than ever before. Housing conditions are often appalling, recreational facilities are often lacking; many young people are homeless while others live in unhappy homes. For most, secondary education sends them out ill-prepared for adult life and work. Worst of all is the extent of unemployment facing school-leavers.

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RENTALS

Trade 01-837 1804
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CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE GRIDIRON CLUB of Oxford. The Gridiron Club would be grateful if past Members would send their names, addresses and dates of membership to the President, 17 Longhope, Balliol College, Oxford, in order to update the Club's records.

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هكذا من الأصل

Saturday

Weekend television and radio programmes
Edited by Peter Dear and Peter Davalle

Sunday



Martyn Green in the film version of The Mikado (Channel 4, 2.30 pm). And James Cagney: That Yankee Doodle Dandy (BBC 2, 6.25 pm).



Baryshnikov and Minnelli (Channel 4, 7.15pm). And Joss Ackland and Claire Bloom in Shadowlands (BBC 1, 9.20 pm).

BBC 1

8.30 **The Family-Ness**, with the voices of Susan Sheridan and Peter Hawkins (r). **8.35** **Children of Fire Mountain.** The penultimate episode of the drama serial for children set in New Zealand at the turn of the century (r).

9.00 **Saturday SuperStore**, managed by Mike Read. The customers include Cliff Richard, Slade, Paul Daniels, Cantabile, Russ Abbott, Lyndsey MacDonald and Ian McCaskill.

12.15 **Grandstand** introduced by Desmond Lynam. The line-up is: **12.20** Football Focus with Bob Wilson; **12.40, 1.15** and **1.40** Rallycross from Brands Hatch; **12.55, 1.25** and **2.00** Racing from Chepstow; **1.10** News summary and weather; **2.25** and **3.10** Rugby League; a John Player Special Trophy semi-final; **3.00** Sports round-up; **3.50** Half-times scores and reports; **4.00** Ice Hockey from Edinburgh: Murrayfield v Durham; **4.40** Final score.

5.05 **News** with Jan Leeming. Weather.

5.15 **Sport/Regional news.**

5.20 **The Krankies Elektronik Komik** with The Great *Soprendo and Chas and Dave.*

5.50 **Bob's Full House.** The final programme of the electronic bingo series, presented by Bob Monkhouse (Ceefax).

6.25 ***Film: Follow that Camel*** *(1967)* starring Phil Silvers, Jim Dale, Charles Hawtrey and Kenneth Williams. Carry-On version of Beau Geste with Jim Dale as the hapless Beau, banished from Britain for ungentlemanly conduct to serve time in the Foreign Legion under the harsh eye of Sergeant Nocker. Directed by Gerald Thomas.

8.00 ***Juliet Bravo.*** *Anna Carteret* plays Inspector Kate Longton for the last time in this final episode of the series. After being turned down by the Promotion Board Kate begins to think about a life outside of the force (Ceefax).

8.50 **Only Fools and Horses.** *Del's* chances of making a fortune rely on his ability to prise Denzil's redundancy money from him. Fortunately, Del's powers of persuasion are irresistible but not so his business acumen (r) (Ceefax).

9.20 ***News and Sport.*** With Jan Leeming. Weather.

9.35 **Edge of Darkness.** The third and final episode of the adaptation of the nuclear *thriller by Troy Kennedy Martin* and Craven and Jedburgh successfully breach the defences of Northmoor but they are detected. (r) (Ceefax).

11.20 **Film: Dead Cert** *(1974)* starring Scott Anthony, Judi Dench and Michael Williams. Skulduggery *in the horse racing world.* Following an anonymous tip that his horse is involved in race fixing, trainer Bill Davidson is killed by a fall from his best steeplechaser, Alan York, a jockey friend of the dead man, is convinced *Davidson's death was not* accidental but finds his investigations into the tragedy thwarted by the authorities at every turn. Based on a novel by Dick Francis and directed by Tony Richardson.

12.50 **Weather.**

TV-am

6.55 **Good Morning Britain** presented by Mike Morris. *News at 7.00; regional report* at 7.08; sport at 7.15.

7.30 **The Wide Awake Club** for children includes news and weather at 8.25.

ITV/LONDON

9.25 **TX.** *Tony Slattery and Alison* Dowling go backstage to meet Jack and his Beanstalk; and Ron Freethy goes beachcombing.

11.00 **Mr T's Christmas Dream.** A fantasy tale with music, magic and comedy. Starring Mr T, Emmanuel Lewis, Maureen McGovern and David Copperfield.

12.00 **News** with Alastair Stewart.

12.05 **Saint and Greavsie.** Ian and Jimmy discuss the latest sports news. **12.30** Wrestling. Two bouts from Battersea Town Hall.

1.20 **Airwolf.** Stringfellow Hawke and Caitlin are in a desperate search for an antidote to a deadly virus. In pursuit of that aim they are forced into an uneasy alliance with a team of Russian military men.

2.15 **Gymnastics.** Dickie Davies introduces coverage of the Kraft International from the Wembley Arena. The commentators are John Taylor and Monica Phelps.

4.15 **Benson.** Benson receives the news of an inheritance with mixed emotions.

4.45 **Results service.**

5.00 **News** with Alastair Stewart.

5.05 **Blockbusters.** Bob Holness presents another round of the general knowledge game for teenagers.

5.35 **Blind Date.** Young people, out *of sight of each other,* ask each other questions to discover who will be paired *with whom on a blind date.*

6.15 **Copy Cats.** Fast moving impressions from a variety of artists headed by Bobby Davro.

6.45 **3-2-1.** *Game show presented* by Ted Rogers. Three couples in a competition with a Sinbad the Sailor theme. The guests include Norman Collier, Lynsey de Paul, Arthur English and John Inman (Oracle).

7.45 **Christmas Cannon and Ball.** A *Christmas special starring the* two comedians and their guests who include Ruth Madoc, Paul Nicholas and children from the Pestalozzi Village, Sussex (Oracle).

8.45 **News** and sport.

9.00 ***Film:*** **Reds** (1981) starring *Warren Beatty, Diane Keaton* Jack Nicholson, Maureen Stapleton and Gene Hackman. The love story of a radical journalist, John Reed, and writer Louise Bryant, who meet in the United States of 1915. They live together for a while in Greenwich Village until the United States enters the First World War when Louise flees to France to establish an independent identity. John follows her and together they go to Russia where their love story continues against the *background of the Workers'* Revolution. Directed by Warren Beatty.

12.25 **LWT News** headlines followed by **Night Thoughts.**

BBC 2

9.00 **Ceefax.**

1.50 **The Sky At Night.** Patrick Moore investigates a number *of discredited astronomy* theories (r).

2.10 **Film: The Cheaters*** (1945) starring Joseph Schildkraut. Sentimental tale about the Pidgeon family who face financial ruin. Directed by Joseph Kane.

3.35 **Film: The Nativity** (1978) starring Madeline Stone as Mary, John V Shea as Joseph and Leo McKern as *Herod,* in this made-for-television version of the events leading *up to the first Christmas.* Directed by Bernard Kowalski.

5.05 **Richard Dimbleby:** A Broadcasting Life. A documentary, first shown in 1975, tracing the celebrated career of the inimitable broadcaster. (r).

6.00 ***Deutsch direkt!*** *Lesson ten of* the 20-part German conversation course. (r).

6.25 **James Cagney – That Yankee Doodle Dandy.** A tribute to the Hollywood film star, tracing his 50-year career

7.15 **News** and sport. With Jan Leeming. Weather.

7.30 **The Doggy Men.** A *documentary,* narrated by Niall Tibbin, about the characters and the dogs of the Dunmore *Park track in North Belfast.*

8.00 **Opera for Africa** from the Verona Arena where the stars of the operatic world performed to raise money for *victims of the African famine.* The event, organised by Jose Carreras, included *performances from Agnes* Baltsa, Montserrat Caballe and Paul Miles Kingston.

10.05 **Saturday Review 1985.** A review of the year's arts and *media with extracts from* plays, television, films and publications. With comment and discussion from Hermione Lee, Christopher Ricks and A. N. Wilson. Tom Phillips chooses his personal selection of art and exhibitions.

11.20 ***Film: Three Brothers*** *(1980)* starring Philippe Noiret, Michele Placido and Vittorio Mezzogiorno. Three brother return to the primitive farm where they spent their childhood to attend a funeral. They have lost touch with their roots and try desperately to experience a sense of belonging. Italian dialogue. *English subtitles. Directed by* Francesco Rosi. Ends at 1.15.

CHANNEL 4

12.30 **Channel Four Racing** from Lingfield Park. Brough Scott introduces coverage of four races – the **12.45, 1.15, 1.45** and **2.15.**

2.30 **Film: The Mikado** (1939). *Kenny Baker,* Martyn Green, Jean Colin, Sydney Granville, John Barclay and Constance *Willis head the cast for this* version of the Gilbert and Sullivan comic opera about romance and intrigue in ancient Japan. Directed by Victor Schertzinger.

4.10 **Film: Gnomes** (1980). A made-for-television animated movie, based on the best selling book by Wil Huygen and Rien Poortvliet, about a gnome, 101 *years of age,* who believes he is still too young to marry. Directed by Jack Zander.

5.05 **Brookside.** (r) (Oracle).

6.00 **The Puppet Man.** Part five of the six-episode dramatized documentary series about Walter Wilkinson, a puppeteer *and author* who worked in the west country during 1925.

6.40 **World of Animation.**

7.00 News summary and weather followed by **7 Days.** The darker side of Christmas present with Ray Murphy of Shelter; how Jews react to and *celebrate the holiday; and film* of Vietnamese boat people in Birmingham.

7.30 **The Planets.** The final programme of Heather Couper's series and the question 'are we alone in the universe?' is discussed by Don *McArthy and Frank Lowe of* the University of Arizona.

8.00 **Beats of the Heart.** This final programme of the series features the music of Japan *(r).*

9.00 **Upstairs, Downstairs.** Georgina Worsley is in emotional turmoil over the death of James Bellamy. (r). (Oracle).

10.00 **Hill Street Blues.** Captain Freedom annoys Belker when *he upsets the arrest of a petrol* station robber. (Oracle).

11.00 **'Who Dares Wins . . .'** Off beat comedy.

11.45 **Tennis.** Highlights of today's *doubles match in the final of* the Davis Cup in Munich between Germany and Sweden.

12.45 **O'Malley**, starring Mickey Rooney. The pilot for a proposed series about a California private detective who decides to try his luck in *New York where he was once* a policeman. (r). Ends at **1.40.**

BBC 1

8.55 **Play School.** *9.15* Articles of Faith, Charles Elliott talks to Fr Gerard Hughes about a Christian's responsibility to be a peacemaker. **9.30** This is the Day. *A simple service of* prayer and fellowship from a viewer's home in south London.

10.00 **Asian Magazine.** An Asian *Christian family in Manchester* as they prepare for Christmas. **10.30** Former Glory. Michael Bryant *tells the story of the* restoration of St Lawrence, Whitchurch (r).

11.50 **See Hear!** A Christmas Special of the magazine series for the hard-of-hearing.

12.40 **Farming.** A look at the growing trade in old farm bric-a-brac as *antiques. 1.03* Weather.

1.05 **News** headlines. **1.10** **Rockwell.** Cliff Richard sings 12 of his favourite songs. With guest Larry Norman (r). **2.00** **EastEnders.** (r) (Ceefax). **3.00** Tom and Jerry.

3.10 **Botham Over Britain.** The *story of Ian Botham's* walk from John O'Groats to Land's End in aid of the Leukaemia *Research Fund. With Botham* on the 35-day walk was Breakfast Time reporter, Bob Whittaker.

3.40 **The Treble.** A documentary following 12 months in the life of the celebrated boy treble Aled Jones (r).

4.45 ***Sky-dive to Autana.*** *The story* of a parachute jump on to the top of a sandstone pinnacle in a remote Venezuelan jungle; abseiling down the side to the huge caves below housing a long-forgotten underground river. Narrated by Ian Holm.

5.30 **Oliver Twist.** *The penultimate* episode and Fagin tells Sykes of the midnight meeting on *London Bridge between* Nancy, Rose and Mr Brownlow, and Sykes vows to take revenge on Nancy (Ceefax).

6.00 **Appeal** by Sir Richard Attenborough on behalf of the Muscular Dystrophy Group.

6.05 ***News*** *with Jan Leeming.* Weather.

6.15 **Songs of Praise** from Canterbury Cathedral. (Ceefax.)

7.15 **Film: The Jazz Singer.** *(1980)* starring Neil Diamond, Laurence Olivier, Paul Nicholas and Lucie Arnaz. A re-make of the Al Jolson film about the son of the cantor of a New York synagogue who leads a double life, unbeknown *to his father, as a pop singer* as well as his father's assistant. But all is revealed *when a good deed lands him in* jail. Directed by Richard Fleischer (Ceefax).

9.05 **News** with Jan Leeming. Weather.

9.20 **Shadowlands,** by William Nicholson. Joss Ackland and Claire Bloom star in this love story about Oxford don and author, C S Lewis, a confirmed bachelor, and the woman who dramatically changed his life, Joy Davidman, a Jewish *American divorcee, novelist* and poet. Directed by Norman Stone.

10.50 **Do They Know It's Christmas?** With Bob Geldof as he visits the drought stricken areas of Africa that will receive the benefits of his Band Aid *concerts.*

11.20 **Manilow's Christmas Magic.** Barry Manilow recorded at the National Exhibition Centre in 1984 (r).

12.10 **Weather.**

TV-am

6.55 **Good Morning Britain** begins with 'A Thought for a Sunday'; cartoon at **7.00**; Are You Awake Yet? for the young at **7.25**; the What's News quiz at *7.50; news headlines at 8.27.*

8.30 **The Sunday Programme,** presented by David Frost. The guests are Jesse Jackson, John Wells and Derek *Jameson.*

ITV/LONDON

9.25 **Wake Up London.** The Vicious Boys visit a theatre workshop. **9.35** **The Merrie Melodies** Show. Cartoon.

10.00 **Morning Worship** from St Germain's Church, Portland Road, Birmingham. **11.00** Link. *Rosalie Wilkins* and Kevin Mulhern look back at the major issues faced by disabled people this year. **11.30** *The* Questors. An examination of the sense of smell (r).

12.00 **Weekend World.** Brian Walden looks behind the scandals and take-overs to examine what is really happening in the City.

1.00 **Athletics.** The HFC International Cross Country from Alexandra Palace, *London.*

2.00 **The Story of the Carol.** What was the history of the carol before its Victorian revival? The guides on this musical story include Benjamin Luxon, Cantabile, Lorelei Lynn and Rat Pate Theatre.

3.00 ***LWT News headlines*** followed by **Police 5** with Shaw Taylor.

3.15 **The Smurfs.** Cartoon.

3.30 **Bullseye.** Darts and general knowledge game presented by *Jim Bowen.* The guests are Jocky Wilson and Tony Green.

4.00 **Golden Pennies.** Drama serial set in the *goldfields of 19th* century Australia.

4.30 **Sunday Sunday,** presented by Gloria Hunniford. This last of the series is a compilation of *highlights from earlier shows.*

5.30 **Albion Market.** Festive spirit causes emotions to run high (Oracle).

6.00 **News** with Alastair Stewart.

6.10 ***Highway Christmas Special.*** Sir Harry Secombe takes part in a heartwarming adventure that leads to a suprise destination thousands of miles away.

7.15 **Child's Play,** presented by Michael Aspel. What are the *children attempting to* describe? Janet Brown, Roy Castle, Bobby Davro and Sandra Dickinson try to find out.

7.55 **Me and My Girl.** Simon's quiet Sunday goes by the board when his overnight guest *announces to his daughter* that she and her father are engaged.

8.20 **Surprise, Surprise!** Unsuspecting members of the public receive shocks from Cilla Black and Bob Carolgees.

9.20 **News.**

9.35 **The Death of the Heart,** by Elizabeth Bowen, adapted by Derek Mahon. Patricia Hodge, Robert Hardy, Nigel Havers *and Jojo Cole star in this story* of a 16-year-old orphan, craving affection, who is sent to stay with her cool and aloof stepbrother and his wife. Directed by Peter Hammond.

12.25 **LWT News** headlines followed by **Neil Sedaka in Concert.**

1.20 **Christmas Night Thoughts** with Alec McCowen and Paul Miles-Kingston.

BBC 2

9.00 **Ceefax.**

11.45 **Champion, the Wonder Horse*** meets the Bad Men of the Valley (r).

12.10 **Windmill.** Chris Serle dips into the archives for examples of Christmas past's programmes including Dave Allen at Large, The Good Life and The *Morecambe and Wise* Christmas Show. In addition, John Craven recalls the time *he met Mother Theresa,* and Jeremy Unwin, Young Cathedral Chorister of the Year joins *Mr Serle* in a rendition of Good King Wenceslas.

1.10 **States of Mind.** Jonathan Miller in conversation with Rom Harre, Fellow of Linacre College, Oxford (r).

2.00 **Rugby Special.** Nigel Starmer-Smith introduces *highlights* of a Thorn EMI Divisional Championship game.

2.30 **The Orson Welles Story.** A repeat of Arena's acclaimed *documentary* about the giant of the cinema who died in October. Interval 4.20–4.25.

5.20 **News Review** with Moira Stuart. Subtitles.

5.50 **Thinking Aloud.** Religion: why we do need to believe? is discussed by Bryan Magee, *Professor A. J. Ayer,* the Rev Don Cupitt and Dan Sperber.

6.30 **Ski Sunday.** The Ladies' Downhill from Haus and the Men's Slalom from Kranjska Gora.

7.15 **The Natural World: Aspen – A Dance of Leaves.** A film portrait of the aspen, the most dominant of the trees in the area where the prairies of the United States meet the woodlands of Canada.

8.05 ***Comrades.*** *This sixth film in* the series of portraits of Russian citizens focuses on *Svyatoslav Nikolaevich* Fyodorov, a world famous eye surgeon.

8.45 **Under Sail.** The German Baltic port of Flensburg's Rum *Regatta, held every year to* celebrate the port's associations with the West Indian rum trade during the days of sail.

9.05 **Film: The French Lieutenant's Woman** (1981) starring Meryl Streep and Jeremy Irons. *Harold Pinter's adaptation of* John Fowles's complex novel about a Victorian love affair between an engaged gentleman and a governess who has been spurned by her French lover. Directed by Karel Reisz. (Ceefax).

11.05 ***The Other Side of Alf.*** Highlights of a concert recorded at the Hatfield Forum, featuring Alison Moyet with the John Altman Big Band. Ends at **12.00**

CHANNEL 4

1.05 **Irish Angle – Hands.** The skill of a traditional cooper, John Sinlis.

1.30 **Cartoon Carnival.**

2.00 **Tennis.** The fourth rubber of the final of the Davis Cup between Germany and Sweden at the Olympia Halle, Munich.

5.15 ***World of Animation.***

5.30 **Altarpieces.** The first programme in a series of three examining three German altarpieces made in the 15th and early 16th centuries. The first one is a work combining architecture, sculpture and *painting, by Michael Pacher of* Brunneck in the church of St Wolfgang am Waltgangsee in *1480. NB: If the tennis over-*runs this programme will be shown tomorrow at **2.00.**

6.00 **American Football.** The featured game this week is *between the New York Giants* and the Dallas Cowboys.

7.15 **News** summary and weather followed by **Baryshnikov** on Broadway. Russian ballet star *Mikhail Baryshnikov teams up* with Liza Minelli and Neil Carter in a tribute to the musicals of Broadway. Classic song and dance sequences have been re-interpreted by award-winning choreographer Ron Field and include numbers *from Oklahoma!, Where's* Charley, The Boyfriend and A Chorus Line (r).

8.15 **The Jewel in the Crown.** The final episode and Guy Perron, shattered to learn that Merrick was murdered, is relieved to learn of Hari Kumar's *innocence.* (r) (Oracle).

9.15 **The Mysteries: The Nativity.** *Part one of the* acclaimed trilogy performed by a Nationa Theatre cast under the *direction of Bill Bryden and* Derek Bailey. Recorded at the Cottesloe Theatre, tonight's production begins with the Creation and the making of the world according to the Old Testament, followed by the stories of Adam and Eve, Cain *and Abel, Noah's Ark,* Abraham and Isaac, Mary and Joseph, and the arrival of the Holy Child. With Brian Glover as God and Brenda Blethyn as Mary.

11.40 **The Twilight Zone: A Hundred Yards Over the Rim*.** A man with a sick child crossing rough New Mexico country in 1847 suddenly discovers a modern highway. Starring Cliff Robertson. Followed by *Nightmare at 20,000 feet*.* A man recovering from a nervous breakdown sees *himself walking along the wing* of an aeroplane. Starring William Shatner. Ends **12.35.**

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m; 1089kHz/275m; **Radio 2:** 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m; **Radio 3:** 1215kHz/247m: VHF -90-92.5; **Radio 4:** 200kHz 1500m: VHF -92-95; **LBC** 1152kHz/261m; VHF 97.3; **Capital:** 1548kHz/194m: VHF 95.8; **BBC Radio London** 1458kHz/206m: VHF 94.9; **World Service** MF 648kHz/463m.

Radio 4

On long wave. † Also VHF stereo.

5.55 Shipping. **6.00** News Briefing. **6.10** Prelude. **6.30** News; Farming Today. **6.50** Prayer for the day. **6.55** Weather; Travel.

7.00 News **7.10** Today's Papers. **7.15** On Your Farm. **7.45** In Perspective (with Rosemary Hartill). **7.50** Radio 4 Christmas Competition. **7.55** Weather; Travel.

8.00 News **8.10** Today's Papers. **8.15** Peace, Brotherly Love and a Punch in the Mouth (written by Richard Stilgoe, with songs by Peter Skellern.† **8.48** Yesterday in Parliament. **8.57** Weather; Travel.

9.00 News.

9.05 The Dark Christmasses. The Second World War radio programmes that kept Britain smiling. A nostalgic programme, presented by *Dr Christopher* Andrew.

9.50 News Stand. Angela Gordon *reviews the weekly magazines.*

10.05 The Week in Westminster. With Robert Carvel of The London *Standard.*

10.30 Pick of the week. TV and radio extracts, presented by Margaret Howard.†

11.30 Nuts for Christmas. With Robert Foxcroft who meets the Christmas Archives collectors Maria and Andrew Von Slaufer.

12.00 News: A small country living at Christmas. With Jeanine McMullen.

12.27 News Quiz of the Year. Richard Ingrams, Ian Hislop and Angela Gordon face Alan Coren, David Taylor and Janet Street-Porter. Chaired by Barry Took. **12.55** Weather.

1.00 News.

1.10 Any Questions? Lord Soper, Roy *Hattersley,* MP, Jeffrey Archer and Rosemary Brown in Hamel Hempstead. **1.55** Shipping.

2.00 News; The Afternoon Play. Lord Glenaldy. The last episode of a three-part serial by A. R. Rawlinson. With Gabriel Woolf.†

3.00 News: A Christmas Story by Joe Mahon. With Joe Gormley, Sheila McGibbon (r).

3.30 South Africa at Christmas. Radio News Special Report. Graham Leach reports.

4.15 Serendipity on the Shropshire Union. Fred Bassett celebrates canals.

4.30 Kaleidoscope. Sir Victor Pritchett talks to Richard Mayne.

5.00 Call Sign WE.D. Jean Snedeger reports on a radio station notorious for its mistakes. It is in downtown Fisher, West Virginia.

5.25 Week ending. Satirical review of the week's news. **5.50** Shipping. **5.55** Weather; Travel.

6.00 News; Sports round-up.

6.20 Joy to the World. Carols and readings with the boy treble Aled Jones and the BBC Welsh Chorus. Readers: Roy Smith and Annest William.†

7.05 Stop the Week with Robert Robinson. Song by Fascinating Aida †

7.45 Baker's Dozen. Richard Baker with records.

8.30 Saturday-night Theatre. Agents and Patients by Anthony Powell – a radio drama dramatization for the author's 80th birthday. Cast is headed by Andrew Branch and Anthony Daniels.† **9.58** Weather.

10.00 News.

10.15 Evening Service.†

10.30 Solstice. *Compiled by Alison* McLeay. With the voices of Paul Young and Diana Olssen.†

11.00 *News Quiz of the Year (repeat of* the 12.27 pm programme).

11.30 Once Upon a Time. Cinderella. *With Helen Atkinson Wood,* Nicholas Parsons, Nick Wilton, Libby Purves, Rory Bremner, Tim Brooke-Taylor, Graeme Garden and others.†

12.00 News; Weather. **12.33** Shipping.

VHF (available in England and S Wales only) as above except: **5.55-6.00** am Weather; Travel.

Radio 3

6.55 Weather. **7.00** News.

7.05 Aubade: Khachaturian's suite *Masquerade (Monte* Carlo Opera Orchestra); Larsson's A Winter's Tale (Stockholm PO); Roussel's Petite Suite (National Orchestra of French Radio); Schoenberg's Weihnachtmusik (London Sinfonietta members); Smetana's Three Czech Dances (Brno State PO); Brahms's Souvenir de la Russie (the Kontarskys, piano); Delibes's suite Coppelia (Berlin PO).† **9.00** News.

9.05 Record Review: Includes Edward *Greenfield's consumers' guide to* recordings of Berlioz's Symphonie fantastique. With Paul *Vaughan and Geoffrey Norris.*†

10.15 Stereo Release: Dvorak's Sonatina, Op 100 (Perlman, violin/Sanders, piano). And Beethoven's Sonata in E flat Op 7 (Gilels, piano).†

11.15 BBC Philharmonic Orchestra (under Lehel). With Eugene Sarbu (violin). Part one. Kodaly's Dances from Marosszek; Sibelius's Violin Concerto.†

12.05 This Sporting Life: talk by Tom McNab, former Olympics coach and novelist.

12.10 Concert: part two. Beethoven's Symphony No 1; Tchaikovsky's Italian Caprice. **1.00** News.

1.05 Heinrich Schutz: The Christmas Story, with Tavemer Players, Tavemer Consort and soloists Emma Kirkby, Nigel Rogers, David Thomas.†

1.45 Flieder Trio: Boccherini's String Trio in C minor Op 14 No. 2; Schubert's Trio Movement in B flat, D471; Reger's String Trio in A minor, Op 77b.†

2.30 Ars Gallica: French music anthology. Act 2 of Massenet's Manon, with Cotrubas in title role, and Kraus and Quilico; Lalo's Danse marocaine; *Mazurka; La* siesta and other works (French National RO); Chabrier's Pièces pittoresques *(Barbizet, piano);* Franck's Choral in E (Grunenwald, organ); Franck's Symphony in D minor (Paris Orchestra).†

4.30 Domenico Scarlatti: Sonatas in K. *Kk 534; in F,* Kk 6; *in F, Kk 8;* in E minor, Kk 394; in F, Kk 379; and in A minor, Kk 175. Performed by *Gilbert Rowland,* Ralph Kirkpatrick and Rafael Puyana, (harpsichord), and Alicia de Larrocha (piano).†

5.00 Jazz Record Requests: with Peter Clayton.†

5.45 Critics' Forum: with Blake Morrison, Christopher Frayling, Gillian Reynolds and Bryan Robertson. Topics include the Channel 4 documentary *Dario Fo:* Modern Jester; and The Scarlet Pimpernel at Her Majesty's Theatre, London.

6.35 Music for the Iron Voice: Vienna's Symphony No 2 played by David *Sanger at the organ of* Westminster Cathedral.†

7.15 The Discrete Charm of Niels Bohr: *a portrait of the 20th* century physicist. Presented by Paul Davies. Contributors include Professor Hans Bethe, Sir Nevill Mott, Professor Abraham Pais and Sir Rudolf Peierls.

8.00 BBC Welsh SO (under Kasprzyk). With Jennifer Smith (soprano), Gordon Hunt (oboe). Part one, Rossini's overture William Tell; *Matthus's Oboe Concerto (first* performance).†

8.30 Alkan, Rossini and others: *Edward de Souza reads a short* story by Graeme Fife.

8.45 Concert: part two. Mahler's *Symphony No 4.*†

10.00 As Others Saw Us: Britain in the 16th century, as seen by observers such as Erasmus and members of the Venetian Embassy in London. Presenter: Barry Carman. Readers: Hugh Dickson, David March, John Westbrook and Stephan Thorne.

10.20 Scriabin: Craig Sheppard (piano) plays the 24 Preludes, Op 11.†

11.00 Musica Antiqua, Cologne: Bach's The Musical Offering. Directed by the violinist Reinhard Goebel.†

11.57 News. Until **12.00.**

Radio 2

News on the hour until **1.00pm** 3.00 6.00, 7.00, and hourly from 10.00 Headlines 6.30am, 7.30. Sports Desks **11.02am** 10.02pm. **4.00am** Bob Sinfield. **6.00** Steve Truelove.† **8.05** David Jacobs.† **10.00** Sounds of the 60s (Keith Fordyce).† *1.00pm Radio Active: Out of* Your Depth. **1.30** Sport on 2. Includes Football, Racing from Chepstow, Rugby *League (John Player Trophy),* Rugby Union: (Midlands v London/South & South West v North), Tennis (Davis Cup *Final – West Germany* v Sweden). **5.00** Sports Report: classified results. **6.00** Folk on 2: Christmas with The Kippers. **7.00** Beat the Record (Keith Fordyce). **7.30** James Galway's Christmas Collection.† **9.30** The Christmas Glow. Ian Wallace entertains with some of his favourite seasonal songs.† **10.05** Martin Kelner.† **12.05am** Night Owls.† **1.00** Peter Dickson presents Nightride.† **3.00-4.00** A Little Night Music.†

Radio 1

News on the half hour until **12.30** pm, then **2.00, 3.30, 5.30, 7.30, 9.30** and **12** midnight. **6.00** Mark Page. **8.00** Peter Powell. **10.00** Dave Lee Travis. **1.00** pm Adrian Juste.† **3.00** Paul Gambaccini with America's latest hits.† **5.00** Saturday Live (Richard Skinner). The *best of the year's 'Saturday Live'* interviews. **8.30** In Concert featuring The Alarm.† **7.30** Annemarie Grey. **9.30-12.00** The Midnight Runner Show (with Debs Peach).

VHF Radios 1/2 **4.00** am As Radio 2. **1.00** pm As Radio 1. **7.30-4.00** am As Radio 2.

WORLD SERVICE

6.00am Newsdesk. **7.00** News. **7.09** Twenty Four Hours. **7.30** From The Weeklies. **7.45** Network UK. **8.00** News. **8.09** Reflections. **8.15** Sting. **8.30** News. **8.39** Review of the British Press. **9.15** World Today. **9.30** Financial News. *9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 Sex and Violence and* Opera. **10.00** News. **10.01** That's Trad. **10.15** Letter From America. **10.30** People and Politics. **11.00** News. **11.09** News About Britain. **11.15** About Britain. **12.00** Radio Newsreel. **12.15** Anything Goes. **12.45** Sports Roundup. **1.00** News. **1.09** Twenty Four Hours. **1.30** Network UK. **1.45** Country Style. **2.00** News Summary. **2.01** Music Now. **2.30** Album Time. **3.00** Radio Newsreel. **3.15** Saturday Special. **4.00** News. **4.09** Commentary. **4.15** Saturday Special. **5.00** News. **5.01** Saturday Special. **8.00** News. **8.09** Twenty-Four Hours. **8.15** What's New. **9.30** People and Politics. **10.00** News. **10.09** From Our Own Correspondent. **10.30** New Ideas. **10.49** Reflections. **10.45** Sports Roundup. **11.00** News. **11.09** Commentary. **11.15** Letters from. **11.30** Mainstream. **12.00** News. **12.09** News About Britain. **12.15** Radio Newsreel. **12.30** Baker's Half Dozen. **1.00** News. **1.01** Play Of *The Week: The Grim Tale of an Old Master.* **2.00** News. **2.09** Review of British Press. **2.15** Poets on Music. **2.30** Album Time. **3.00** News. **3.09** News About Britain. **3.15** From Our Own Correspondent. **3.30** Jazz Score. **4.00** Newsdesk. **4.30** Juke Box Jury. **5.45** Letter From America.

All times in GMT

Regional variations, facing page

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN

† Stereo. ★ Black and white. (r) Repeat

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11.20 **Manilow's Christmas Magic.** Barry Manilow recorded at the National Exhibition Centre in 1984 (r).

12.10 **Weather.**

Radio 4

On long wave. † Also on VHF stereo.

5.55 Shipping. **6.00** News Briefing. **6.10** Prelude. **6.30** News; Morning Has Broken.

7.00 News. **7.10** Sunday Papers. **7.15** Apna Hi Ghar Samajhiye. **7.45** Bells. **7.50** Turning Over New Leaves. **7.55** Weather; Travel.

8.00 News **8.10** Sunday Papers. **8.15** Sunday (religious news). **8.50** Gloria Hunniford with the week's appeal. **8.55** Weather; Travel.

9.00 News. **9.10** Sunday Papers.

9.15 Letter from America, by Alistair Cooke.

9.30 Morning Service from Stornoway Free Church, Isle of Lewis.

10.15 The Archers. Omnibus edition.

11.15 Radio 4 Christmas Competition. Another chance to hear the clues.

11.20 On Father Christmas's Doorstep. Barry Paine unravels facts from *fiction in Lapland.*

11.50 Christmas on 4, with Eugene Fraser.

12.00 *News; My Music with Frank Muir,* John Amis, Ian Wallace and Denis Norden. Chaired by Steve Race.

12.30 Treasures and Trifles. Tall tales and short verses from the world *of antiques and curios.*

1.00 The World This Weekend: News.

2.00 News; Instant Sunshine . . . *Seasonably Together Again.* Special guests: The Fine Art Brass Ensemble.

2.30 The Afternoon Play. 'A Wreath of Roses' by Elizabeth Taylor. With Angela Pleasence (r).†

4.00 News; The Quiet of a Loving Eye. The career of the 19th century artist, Thomas Cole.

4.30 Kaleidoscope: "Come Beck'ning Ghost". Peter Nicholls talks to ghost-story writers.

5.05 Orca: A Whale Called Killer. The *natural history of the sea* monster. **5.50** Shipping.

6.00 News.

6.15 *Feedback. Colin Semper with* listeners' comments on the BBC.

6.30 You Can't Shut Out The Human Voice. *Prose and poetry by, or* about, prisoners of conscience.

7.30 An Irish Diary. Perils and pitfalls of Christmas preparations.

7.35 After Henry. 'A Week of Sundays' starring Prunella Scales.†

8.00 The Woodlands Gospels. Captain Beaky and his Band spread the story of Jesus across the woodlands.

9.00 News; The Boy With A Cart. Play by Christopher Fry. With Kevin McNally. Brenda Bruce and Brian Blessed (r). †

10.00 News.

10.15 Once Upon A Time. 'Jack and the Beanstalk' with Sue Macgregor, Peter Jones, Barry Took and others..†

10.45 Revenge of the Turkeys! A green blob from outer-nowhere goes "whoomf" on a turkey farm.

11.00 Mary and the Incarnation. The Rt Rev Michael Baughen, Bishop of Chester reflects on the Christmas season.

11.15 Incredible Flautists. Edward *Blakeman on James Galway.*

11.30 Diary of a Provincial Lady by E. M. Delafield. Reader: Anna *Massey. 12.00* Shipping.

VHF (available in England and S Wales only) except: **5.55-6.00** am Weather; Travel.

Radio 3

6.55 Weather.

Warning by Pretoria as nine die in raid

Continued from page 1

Africa during the Christmas Holiday.

Lesotho is surrounded by South African territory, and its small capital lies on the border between Lesotho and the Orange Free State. It is an easy target for raiders operating from South Africa.

In a raid in December 1982, the South Africans killed 42 people, 12 of them Lesotho citizens and 30 South African refugees, many of them ANC members. They also killed about a dozen people in a similar raid on Gaborone, the capital of Botswana, last June.

Seven of yesterday's victims, four black men and three black women, were among guests at a party in a house in the Hoohlo suburb of Maseru only 200 yards from the border, according to local residents. At least three or four were thought to be South African refugees.

The two other victims of the attack, who were shot dead in another house, were Mrs Jacqueline Quinn, a white woman from Cape Town working as a teacher in Maseru, and her Coloured (mixed-race) husband, Joe. It not known whether any of the dead had ANC connections.

A man saying he represented the Lesotho Liberation Army, fighting to overthrow the Prime Minister, Mr Leabua Jonathan, telephoned the South African Press Association in Johannesburg and claimed responsibility for the killings.

The shadowy organization is widely thought to operate from South African soil. But the latest killings do not look like its work.

Meanwhile, two black children, aged four and six, were killed when they detonated a landmine while playing in a field in the far north-western part of the Ovamboland region of Namibia, a South African military spokesman in Windhoek, the Namibian capital, said yesterday.

The landmine, of Soviet manufacture, is presumed to have been laid by Swapo guerrillas.

The South African raid into southern Angola in pursuit of Swapo guerrillas has still not been officially confirmed here, but there is no doubt that it is taking place.

Help for Unita, page 7

Kennedy pays the price for Chappaquiddick

From Christopher Thomas
Washington

Edward Moore Kennedy will never be President of the United States. Time and his past have defeated the fourth and only surviving son of Joseph and Rose Kennedy.

It is to the new generation of the haunted, massively rich Kennedys that the baton of power is slowly, inexorably passing.

The White House was wrested from Senator Kennedy by Chappaquiddick. The ghosts of that strange and largely unexplained affair rose again yesterday when the newly slim, fit-looking Massachusetts Senator faced reporters after announcing that he would not be running for the presidency in 1988.

In a paid-for broadcast on Boston television stations on Thursday night, sitting in a black leather armchair with a Christmas tree as a backdrop, Senator Kennedy cited the pressure a nomination campaign would put on his children, although he insisted they were behind him if he wanted to run.

"I know this decision means that I may never be president, but the pursuit of the presidency is not my life. Public service is," he said.

The public, he insisted, discounted Chappaquipdick now, but that patently is not so. The affair will never let him go.

Politically he will always be paying for that night in July 1969 when he drove a big, black Oldsmobile into a lake, on the way back from a party. His young female passenger, Mary Jo Kopechne, drowned.

Was he drunk? Was he escorting her to a lonely beach? Did he attempt a cover-up? Did he buy the silence of the Kopecne family? Did the police conspire with him? The questions are still asked more than 16 years on.

Senator Kennedy's decision has thrown the democratic presidential spotlight on Senator Gary Hart of Colorado and Governor Mario Cuomo of New York.

In time-honoured style Mr Cuomo said he had no interest in the White House, while Senator Hart remained largely silennt.

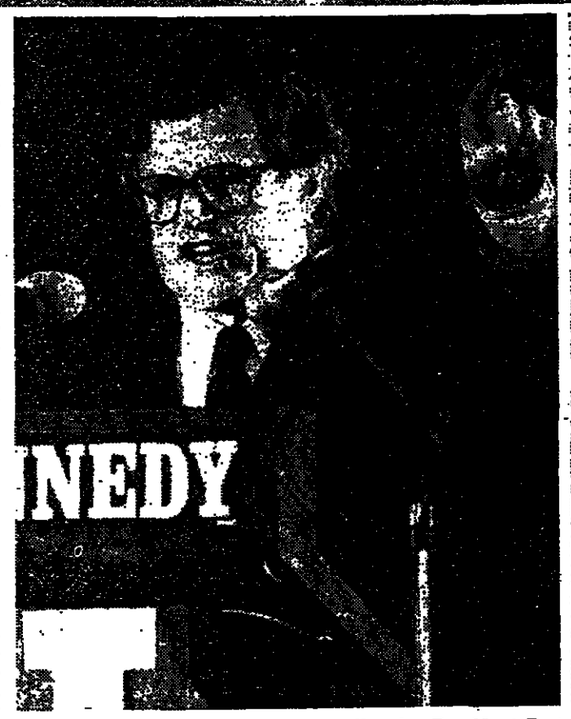
He has the enormous advantage of national fame gained during his unsucessful but respectablee bid for the 1984 nomination against Mr Walter Mondale.

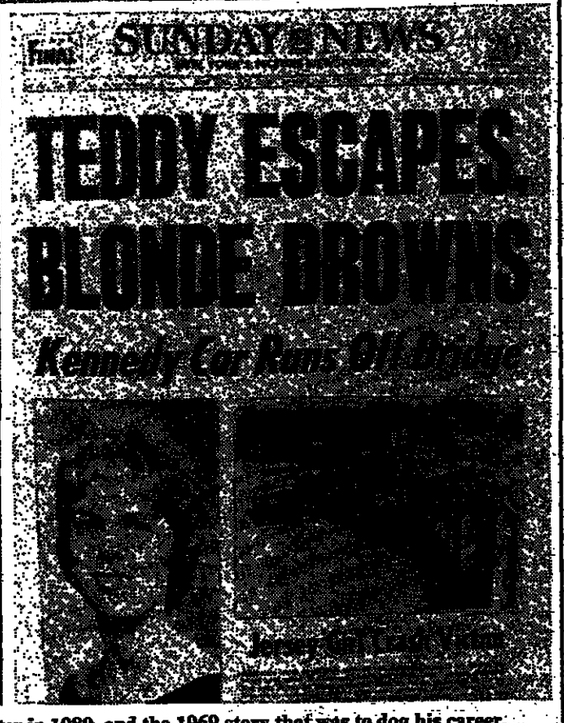
Leading article, page 9



The clan

From left to right: Eunice, born 1921, married Sargent Shriver, lawyer and democratic presidential candidate in 1963; John, born 1917, president of the United States from 1961 until his assassination in 1963, married Jacqueline Lee Bouvier 1953; Rosemary, born 1918, confined to a home for the mentally retarded; Jean, born 1928, married Stephen Smith, an aide during President Kennedy's election campaign, in 1956; Joseph, father of the clan and former ambassador to Britain, born in 1888 and died in 1969; Edward, born 1932, Democratic Senator for Massachusetts, married Joan Bennett in 1968 and divorced earlier this year; Rose, the matriarch, married Joseph in 1914, still living at the family home at Hyannisport; Joseph, the eldest child, born 1915, killed during the war in 1944; Patricia, born 1924, married Peter Lawford the actor in 1954, divorced in 1966; Robert, born 1925, married Ethel Shakel in 1955, Attorney-General during the Kennedy Administration, assassinated in 1968; Kathleen, born 1920, married the Marquess of Hartington, killed in a plane crash in 1948.





Senator Kennedy at his peak, challenging President Carter in 1980, and the 1969 story that was to dog his career.

Ferry accord hopes rise as holiday rush starts

Continued from page 1

flights are being laid on to Belfast. The authority advised travellers to use public transport to Heathrow as the car parks there are expected to be full.

The Meteorological Office said yesterday that the mild weather should continue until Christmas in the South though it may get colder. There may be sleet or snow on high ground in the north but for the rest of the country it is unlikely to be a white Christmas.

On the Continent, the position was:

Paris: Cross-channel ferry operators in Calais, Dunkirk and Boulogne were hoping last night to maintain most services over the weekend despite a call by two of the French seamen's unions for a three-day stoppage from today (Diana Geddes writes).

It was uncertain last night how many seamen would heed the call and only the French Sealink ferries would be affected.

Air traffic in and out of France was severely disrupted yesterday despite the last-minute decision by the air traffic controllers to call off their strike after a court ruling that the strike would be illegal.

The airlines, which until 1 am yesterday had been expecting the strike to go ahead, were not able to reorganize their schedules in sufficient time to put back all their regular flights. Air services are expected to be back to normal today.

Athens: Pilots of Greece's Olympic Airways ended a 48-hour campaign of refusing food and sleep to press demands for better insurance rights (Reuter reports).

Normal flights will not resume till today as doctors have said the pilots need at least 18 hours to recover from the protest, which ended after overnight talks with the government.

Madrid: Spanish air traffic controllers started a 24-hour strike yesterday after nine days of intermittent stoppages for higher wages and shorter working hours.

The controller's action has seriously disrupted services by state airline Iberia, which yesterday cancelled 14 European and 10 domestic flights.

Today's events

Last chance to see

Crafts for Christmas, Portland Gallery, High Street, Southwold, Suffolk; Sat 9 to 1 and 2 to 5.30, (ends today).

William Stukeley, 18th century antiquary, Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Society, the Museum, 41 Long Street, Devizes, Wiltshire; Sat 11 to 1 and 2 to 4, (ends today).

Music

Handel's Messiah by the City of Birmingham Choir, Town Hall, Birmingham, 7.

Handel's Messiah by the City of London Sinfonia and the Richard Hickox Singers, Town Hall, Oxford, 7.

Concert by the Greater Manchester Police Band, St Ann's Church, Manchester, 1.15.

A recital of music for Christmas by the Cathedral Choir, Liverpool Anglican Cathedral, 7.30pm.

Carol service, Winchester Cathedral, 6.30pm.

Carol concert by Cathedral Oratorio Society, Wells Cathedral, 7.

Christmas Music

Carols and Christmas music by the Chelmsford Singers and the Essex Police Band, Chelmsford Cathedral, 7.30.

Christmas concert by the Eye Bach Choir, the nave, Wingfield College, Wingfield, Eye, Suffolk, 6.30

Festive music and carols by the Bournemouth Symphony Chorus and the Bournemouth Sinfonietta, Winter Gardens, Bournemouth, 7.45.

Family carol concert by the Wingates Band, Preston Guildhall, 7.30.

Civic carol concert with Christchurch Camerata, the Regent Centre, High Street, Christchurch, Dorset, 7.

A celebration of Christmas by the Suffolk Schools' Jubilee Choir and Orchestra and Junior Choirs from Suffolk Schools, Snape Maltings, Aldeburgh, 5.

Christmas concert by the Manchester Camerata, Royal Northern College of Music, Manchester, 7.30.

Festival service of nine lessons and carols by candlelight, Church of Saint James the Greater, London Road, Leicester, 6.30.

Christmas concert by the Choir of Bangor Cathedral, Great Hall, Penrhyn Castle, nr Bangor, 7.30.

Tomorrow

Festival of nine lessons and carols with the Choir of Trinity Hall, Cambridge University, Church of St Augustines, West Monkton, nr Taunton, 6.30.

Festival of nine lessons and carols, Parish Church, Leeds, 6.30.

Carols and poetry for the Nativity, St Mary's Cathedral, Palmerston Place, Edinburgh, 6.30.

Festive music and carols by the Bournemouth Symphony Chorus and the Bournemouth Sinfonietta, Wessex Hall, Poole, 7.45.

Liverpool Anglican Cathedral Carol Service, 3.00 pm.

Santa Steaming, Dinting Railway Centre, Dinting, Glossop, Derbyshire, 10.30 to 5.

In the garden

As far as the weather is concerned, 1985 has been a capricious year, and for gardeners, more than a little irritating. But the past 12 months have reaffirmed the truth of the old saying "hurry in the Autumn, tarry in the Spring". Those who did not get the garden ship shape by the end of last year found it difficult to catch up in the cold wet Spring and those who sowed or planted too early found their crops checked, and in many cases damaged or killed, by late frost.

Another old saying "plant shallots on the shortest day and harvest them on the longest day", makes sense. Although you can plant later.

Lilies, if not already arrived, should be delivered soon and planted right away, either in the ground or in pots. If planted in the latter, they should be stood in a cold frame or in a sheltered corner and covered with an 8in-12in layer of straw, peat or leaves.

If you have plenty of leaves available, put a good layer around newly-planted shrubs, especially camellias, rhododendrons and azaleas, also hardy fuchsias, if they were planted in the Summer or Autumn. They are hardy enough when well rooted but vulnerable during their first winter.

Straw, bracken, peat, leaves or any other kind of mulch, while valuable for frost protection and weed control, will keep the ground from warming up quickly in the Spring and so, where early growth is required, do not use them.

New trees, shrubs and roses should be planted as soon as possible. Dig over a fair-sized area – a yard or more – around the site and take out a hole large enough to accommodate the roots easily. RH

Helping lines

A Christmas "Help line," a telephone service giving details of events and services open over the holiday, is being run by television companies and radio stations in different parts of Britain.

London and south-east: open 24 hours on 387 1919 from 6 pm Christmas Eve, until 9 am Dec 30.

Wales and the West: "Contact Wales" (tel. 0222 555555), open 9 am to midnight Christmas Eve and Christmas Day and Boxing Day (surprise celebrities will answer questions). Bristol area: a booklet, *Help at Christmas*, is available from HTV Community Unit 13, Midland Road, Bristol BS2 0JT (tel. Bristol 558251).

Scotland: tel. 041-332 1345 and 031-332 1345: open 2 pm Christmas Eve and runs 24 hours a day until 2 pm on Jan 2.

Anniversaries

TODAY Births: **Leopold von Ranke**, historian, Wiehe, Germany; **Sir Joseph Whitworth, Bt**, engineer, Stockport, Cheshire, 1803. **Benjamin Disraeli, Earl of Beaconsfield**, prime minister 1868, 1874-80, London, 1804: Deaths: **Giovanni Boccaccio**, author of the *Decameron*, Certaldo, Italy 1375. **James Parkinson**, physician, London, 1824: **F. Scott Fitzgerald**, novelist, author of *The Great Gatsby*, Hollywood, 1940; **George Patton**, US Army general, Heidelberg 1945; **Gladys Ripley**, contralto, Chichester, 1955.

TOMORROW Births: **John Crome**, painter, founder of the "Norwich" school, Norwich, 1768; **Jean Henry Fabre**, entomologist, Saint Leons, France, 1823; **Edger Varèse**, composer, Paris, 1883. Deaths: **George Eliot** (Mary Ann Evans), London, 1880; **Dwight Lyman Moody**, evangelist, Northfield, Massachusetts, 1899; **Richard Krafft-Ebing**, psychiatrist, Graz, Austria, 1902; **Beatrix Potter**, Sawrey, Lancashire, 1943; **Alfred Dreyfus** was sentenced to imprisonment on Devil's Island, French Guiana, 1895.

The pound

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.18	2.24
Austria Sch	26.33	24.89
Belgium Fr	76.25	72.55
Canada $	2.057	1.957
Denmark Kr	13.54	12.84
Finland Mkk	8.12	7.72
France Fr	11.37	10.82
Germany DM	3.71	3.53
Greece Dr	251.00	253.00
Hong Kong $	11.48	10.90
Ireland Pt	1.210	1.150
Italy Lire	2536.00	2405.00
Japan Yen	373.00	357.00
Netherlands Gld	4.17	3.97
Norway Kr	11.35	10.80
Portugal Esc	237.00	225.00
South Africa Rd	4.10	3.55
Spain Pta	228.00	216.00
Sweden Kr	11.42	10.87
Switzerland Fr	3.12	2.98
USA $	1.485	1.415
Yugoslavia Dnr	505.00	475.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Retail Price Index: 378.4.

London: The *FT* index closed 6.0 down at 1103.9.

Roads

London and South-east: A4: Eastbound carriageway reduced to one lane Great West Road, nr Transport Avenue, Brentford. A406: Westbound carriageway reduced to 2 lanes from 7.30am until 11.30am in Southend Road, between the M11 and Woodford New Road. M25: Contraflow finished but nearside lane remains closed anti-clockwise between junction 24 and 23; Potters Bar: One lane briefly today.

Midlands: M5: Contraflow, closing northbound carriageway between junction 3 and 2 (Oldbury and Oldbury). Also between junctions 5 (Droitwich) and 4 (Strensgrove), on M5. A45: Major roadworks on partial sections of Shrewsbury to Ludlow road, Hunger Hill, Marshbrook and Upper Affcot.

North: A1 (M): Outside lane closed on northbound and southbound carriageway at Barton Bridge, N of Scotch Corner. M1: Various lane closures at junction 32 S Yorks, M6: Lane closure and contraflow between junction 32 and 33 Lancs.

Wales and West: M5: Only outside lane open N and S between junctions 20 (Wellington) and 27 (Tiverton). A417: Major reconstruction of Cirencester by Swindon road at S Carney, Gloucs, avoid if possible. A48: Lane closures off peak and weekends at Cleppa Park, between Newport and Cardiff, Gwent.

Scotland: A87: Single line traffic with lights at Dornie, Ross and Cromarty. A832: Road improvements at Little Gruinard, E of Laide, Ross and Cromarty. A855: Road construction N and S of Staffin, Skye. A96: Dual carriageway construction along Great North Road at Don Street, Aberdeen, care required.

Information supplied by AA.

Portfolio

For readers who may have missed a copy of *The Times* this week, we repeat below the week's *Portfolio* price changes (today's are on page 20).

Stock No	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Weekly Total
1	+5	+5	−1	+4	+5		
2	+1	+5	−1	+4	+7		
3	+4	+3	+2	+3	+4		
4	+2	+5	−1	+4	+5		
5	+5	+2	−1	+5	+6		
6	+1	+5	+2	+4	+5		
7	+5	+2	−1	+5	+7		
8	+4	+3	+2	+3	+5		
9	+2	+3	−1	+4	+7		
10	+3	+4	−1	+5	+4		
11	+4	+2	+1	+2	+4		
12	+1	+5	+1	+2	+2		
13	+5	+2	+1	+4	+5		
14	+2	+2	+1	+2	+2		
15	+7	+5	−1	+5	+3		
16	+4	+1	+3	+2	+5		
17	+2	+1	−1	+2	+2		
18	+5	+5	−1	+5	+2		
19	+6	+1	+2	+2	+5		
20	+6	+1	+2	+5	+4		
21	+1	+1	−1	+3	+4		
22	+2	+4	−2	+3	+8		
23	+5	+7	−2	+2	+5		
24	+3	+5	−2	+3	+6		
25	+5	+1	−2	+2	+5		
26	+5	+5	−2	+5	+3		
27	+3	+1	−2	+2	+8		
28	+1	+7	−1	+3	+2		
29	+2	+1	−2	+4	+3		
30	+3	+3	−1	+4	+3		
31	+3	+5	+5	+3	+7		
32	+1	+9	+4	+7	+2		
33	+5	+4	−2	+4	+2		
34	+1	+4	+3	+2	+2		
35	+1	+5	−2	+5	+5		
36	+2	+5	−1	+3	+2		
37	+2	+8	−2	+5	+4		
38	+3	+5	−1	+3	+5		
39	+5	+2	−2	+7	+3		
40	+2	+3	+5	+3	+1		

Weather

A strong SW airstream will persist over Britain with a frontal trough moving erratically SE over northern and western areas.

6am to midnight

London, SE, central S, E England, East Anglia, E Midlands, Channel Islands: Mainly cloudy, outbreaks of drizzle, more persistent rain later; SW fresh or strong; max temp 11-13C (52-55F).

W Midlands, SW, central N England, S Wales: Cloudy, rain or drizzle at times, becoming heavy later, hill fog; wind SW strong or gale; max temp 11-13C (52-55F).

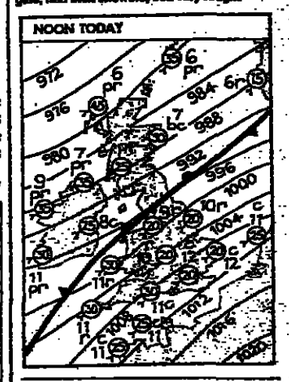
N Wales, NW, NE England, Lake District: Cloudy, periods of rain, heavy at times, hill fog; wind SW strong or gale; max temp 10-12C (50-54F).

Isle of Man, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, SW Scotland, Glasgow, central Highlands: Cloudy, rain heavy at times, hill fog, clearer in evening with scattered showers; wind SW, strong or gale; max temp 9-11C (48-52F).

Moray Firth, NE, NW Scotland, Argyll, Orkney, Shetland, Northern Ireland: Occasional rain becoming brighter with scattered showers; wind SW, strong or gale; max temp 8-10C (46-50F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Monday: Brighter, showery weather spreading S. Becoming a little less mild, windy at times.

SEA PASSAGES: S North sea, strait of Dover, English Channel (E): Wind SW strong or gale, rain or drizzle at times; sea very rough. St George's Channel, Irish Sea: Strong or gale, rain then showers; sea very rough.



Lighting-up time

TODAY

London 4.24 pm to 7.34 am
Bristol 4.34 pm to 7.44 am
Edinburgh 4.18 pm to 8.13 am
Manchester 4.21 pm to 7.54 am
Penzance 4.52 pm to 7.49 am

TOMORROW

London 4.24 pm to 7.35 am
Bristol 4.34 pm to 7.44 am
Edinburgh 4.18 pm to 8.13 am
Manchester 4.22 pm to 7.54 am
Penzance 4.52 pm to 7.50 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloudy; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

	C	F		C	F
Belfast	r	7	45	Guernsey	c	10	50
Birmingham	r	10	50	Inverness	c	7	45
Blackpool	c	9	48	Jersey	c	9	48
Bristol	c	11	52	London	c	11	52
Cardiff	c	11	52	Manchester	f	10	50
Edinburgh	r	8	46	Newcastle	c	9	48
Glasgow	r	8	46	Ronaldsway	c	10	50

London

Yesterday: Temps: max 6 am to 6 pm, 12C (54F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 8C (46F). Humidity: 6 pm, 72 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, 0.05in. Sun: 24hr to 6 pm, nil. Bar: mean sea level, 6 pm, 1016.4 millibars falling. 1,000 millibars = 29.53 ins.

Highest and lowest

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Newquay, 13C (55F); lowest day max: Gorkwall, 7C (45F); highest rainfall: Eskdalemuir, 1.28in; highest sunshine: Lerwick, 0.7hr.



High tides

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TOMORROW	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	3.46	6.7	9.20	5.8	London Bridge	5.59	5.8	10.48	6.0
Aberdeen	5.15	3.9	9.18	3.4	Aberdeen	10.12	3.8	10.16	9.5
Avonmouth	1.52	10.1	2.29	10.5	Avonmouth	2.58	10.3	3.34	10.6
Belfast	6.42	2.9	7.02	3.1	Belfast	7.44	2.9	8.02	3.1
Cardiff	1.37	9.50	2.14	9.94	Cardiff	2.43	9.7	3.19	10.1
Devonport	12.37	4.4	12.52	4.6	Devonport	1.43	4.5	2.10	4.8
Dover	6.10	5.5	7.07	5.7	Dover	7.20	5.6	8.08	5.9
Falmouth	12.55	4.2	13.22	4.4	Falmouth	1.13	4.3	1.51	4.4
Glasgow	8.21	4.2	8.41	4.3	Glasgow	8.21	4.2	9.45	4.4
Harwich	7.03	3.3	7.29	3.3	Harwich	8.15	3.5	8.55	3.3
Holyhead	6.10	4.3	6.17	4.6	Holyhead	7.06	4.4	7.13	4.6
Hull	12.56	6.1	2.19	4.3	Hull	2.11	6.1	3.15	5.9
Ilfracombe	12.58	6.9	1.33	7.2	Ilfracombe	2.05	7.0	2.24	7.3
Leith	10.21	4.5	10.33	4.8	Leith	11.17	4.6	11.30	4.7
Liverpool	6.36	7.2	6.56	7.6	Liverpool	7.41	7.4	7.58	7.7
Lowestoft	4.15	2.1	5.46	7.8	Lowestoft	5.23	2.1	6.39	7.7
Margate	7.00	3.9	8.08	3.9	Margate	8.06	4.0	9.07	4.0
Milford Haven	1.29	5.2	1.52	5.5	Milford Haven	2.29	5.3	2.54	5.5
Newquay	12.23	5.4	12.51	5.8	Newquay	1.28	5.5	1.52	5.7
Oban	1.01	2.9	1.51	3.3	Oban	2.10	3.0	2.38	3.4
Penzance	0.00	0.0	12.08	4.6	Penzance	12.56	4.5	1.13	4.8
Portland	1.45	1.5	1.50	1.6	Portland	2.41	1.8	2.57	1.9
Portsmouth	6.57	4.0	7.24	3.9	Portsmouth	7.55	4.0	8.26	4.1
Sheerness	6.25	5.0	7.01	4.7	Sheerness	7.25	5.0	8.07	4.8
Southampton	6.43	3.7	7.01	3.5	Southampton	7.39	3.8	7.59	3.6
Swansea	1.21	7.1	1.57	7.4	Swansea	2.32	7.3	2.58	7.5
Tees	11.47	4.3	11.44	4.5	Tees			12.42	4.4
Walton-on-Naze	6.42	3.3	7.41	3.4	Walton-on-Naze	7.54	3.4	8.42	3.5

Tide measurement in metres: 1m=3.280ft.

Sun rises: 8.04 am. Sun sets: 3.54 pm. Moon sets: 1.58 am. Moon rises: 12.54 pm. Full Moon: December 27.

Sun rises: 8.04 am. Sun sets: 3.54 pm. Moon sets: 3.06 am. Moon rises: 1.06 pm. Full Moon: December 27.

Around Britain

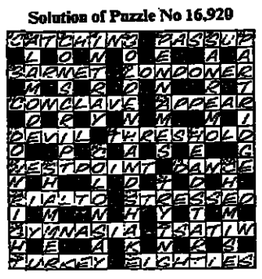
	Sun hr	Rain in	Max C	Max F		Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
EAST COAST					Ilfracombe	–	.29	10	50	Dull
Scarboro	–	.17	10	50	Shwrs pm	–	.29	10	52	Cloudy
Bridlington	–	.18	10	50	Shwrs pm	–	.13	10	50	Shwrs pm
Cromer	–	–	10	50	Cloudy	–	.28	11	52	Dull
Lowestoft	–	.01	10	50	Rain pm	–	.18	10	50	Shwrs pm
Clacton	–	–	10	50	Cloudy	–	.48	11	52	Rain
Margate	–	.09	11	52	Rain am					
SOUTH COAST					ENGLAND AND WALES					
Folkestone	–	.04	11	52	Rain am	–	.09	12	54	Rain am
Hastings	–	–	11	52	Cloudy	–	.06	10	50	Rain
Eastbourne	–	–	11	52	Cloudy	–	.28	11	52	Rain am
Brighton	0.1	–	10	50	Cloudy	0.1	.10	11	52	Cloudy
Worthing	–	–	11	52	Cloudy	–	.05	12	54	Rain
Littlehmpt	–	–	11	52	Cloudy	–	.15	11	52	Rain pm
Bognor R	–	–	11	52	Cloudy	–	.12	12	54	Rain pm
Selsmore	–	–	11	52	Cloudy	–	.06	11	52	Cloudy
Sandown	–	–	11	52	Cloudy	–	.11	11	52	Rain pm
Shanklin	–	–	11	52	Cloudy					
Bournemth	0.1	.04	11	52	Rain am	SCOTLAND				
Poole	0.1	–	11	52	Cloudy	Edinburgh	–	.35	12	54	Rain
Swanage	0.1	.08	11	52	Rain am	Prestwick	–	.68	11	52	Rain
Weymouth	–	–	11	52	Cloudy	Glasgow	–	.51	12	54	Rain
Exmouth	–	–	11	52	Cloudy	Tiree	–	.29	11	52	Rain
Teignmouth	–	–	11	52	Cloudy	Stornoway	–	.20	11	52	Rain
Torquay	–	–	11	52	Drizzle am	Lerwick	0.7	.58	7	45	Showers
Falmouth	–	.08	11	52	Rain am	Wick	–	.06	8	46	Cloudy
						Kinloss	–	–	10	50	Cloudy

Abroad

BIDDAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; fg, fog; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.

		C	F			C	F
Alaccio	s	15	59	Cologne	c	8	46
Alicante	f	14	57	Copenhagen	c	7	45
Amsterdam				Corfu	s	17	63
Algiers	f	17	63	Dublin	c	11	52
Amsterdam	f	10	50	Dubrovnik	s	11	52
Athens	c	15	59	Faro	s	15	59
Bahrain	f	27	68	Florence	s	5	41
Barbados	s	28	82	Frankfurt	c	7	45
Barcelona	s	13	55	Funchal	s	19	66
Beirut				Geneva	s	4	39
Belgrade	c	5	43	Gibraltar	s	17	63
Berlin	c	6	43	Helsinki	sn	−2	28
Bermuda	r	19	66	Hong Kong	s	18	64
Biarritz	s	13	55	Innsbruck	s	2	36
Bologna	r	3	37	Istanbul	r	9	48
Bordeaux	c	3	37	Jeddah	s	25	79
Brussels	s	6	43	Jo'burg			
Budapest	s	6	43	Karachi	s	25	77
Buenos Aires	f	28	82	Las Palmas	f	19	66
Cairo				Lisbon	f	19	66
Cape Tn	c	19	66	Locarno	s	3	37
Chateaux	s	17	63	L Angeles	s	22	72
Chicago	s	12	16	Luxemburg	c	4	39
Chichevitz	f	25	77	Madrid	fg	2	36
Majorca	s	15	61	Rome	s	14	57
Malaga	s	17	63	Salzburg	c	7	45
Malta	c	17	63	Sao Paulo	s	27	81
Melbourne	c	22	72	S Francisco	c	9	48
Montreal	c			Santiago	s	29	84
Moscow	f	21	70	Seoul	s	1	34
Milan	s	7	45	Singapore	s	30	86
Montreal	sn	−17	1	Stockholm	c	−1	12
Moscow	f	−19	−2	Strasbourg	f	7	45
Munich	c	5	41	Sydney	s	29	102
Nairobi	r	28	82	Tangier	f	16	61
Naples	s	13	55	Tel Aviv	f	16	61
New Delhi	s	18	64	Tenerife			
New York	s	−3	27	Tokyo	s	5	41
Nice	s	14	57	Toronto	s	−7	19
Nicosia	sn	−1	30	Tunis	s	17	63
Paris	c	7	45	Valencia	c	12	54
Peking				Vancouver	c	3	37
Perth	c	20	68	Venice	fg	1	34
Prague	r	4	39	Vienna	c	4	39
Reykjavik	c	1	34	Warsaw	r	3	37
Rhodes	s	14	57	Washington	s	2	36
Rijeka	f	20	68	Wellington	c	18	64
Rio de Jan	c	24	75	Zurich	f	4	39

Solution of Puzzle No 16,920



Solution of Puzzle No 16,925



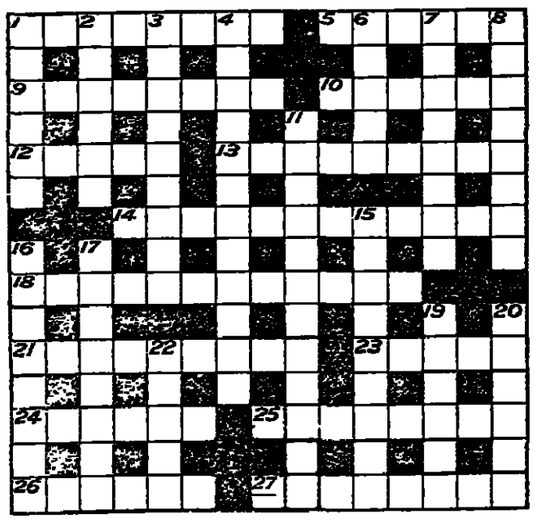
The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,926

A prize of The Times Atlas of World History *will be given for the first three correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, 12 Coley Street, London WC99 9YT. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.*

The winners of last Saturday's competition are: Mrs S. Jones, 8 Woodvale Close, Somersall, Chesterfield, Derbyshire; Richard Coombs, 15 Crystal Glen, Heath, Cardiff; Mr J. J. Senior, Flat 1, Wembury House, 13 Grange Road, Chiswick, London, W4.

Name .....

Address .....



ACROSS

1 River – one with bottom and top (8).
5 Measured by one falling (6).
9 Drudge follows 3 (8).
10 Win over mad King Midas (6).
12 Leave one's former spouse to scoff (5).
13 Swift horse (9).
14 Cast aspersions (varied) and met with trouble (12).
18 Watch, in France, over obscure weapon (12).
21 Trumpet-player producing a jolly sound (9).
23 The law of the land, we hear (5).
24 Introduce one to good man in love (6).
25 Girl could, they say, be mine possibly (8).
26 Seal catch – enquire into it (6).
27 "We're about to start!" say the brave men outside (4,4).

DOWN

1 Staff of the aristocrat in France upholding Girondists' leader (6).
2 Crocodile, one likely to make a vicious attack (6).
3 Wealth is a burden (9).
4 Holland – it may upset Emma (4,8).
6 In bed it helps a woman (5).
7 Lead shot reached inside (8).
8 House built but not bought (4-4).
11 A song of long ago (4,4,4).
15 *Cane rogue erring further* (9).
16 Being a gnome is testing (8).
17 Introduces a place of business (8).
19 A place to gamble on one envelope turning up (6).
20 Moving with ease, an offspring of Aphrodite (6).
22 Tie up for a little while (5).

The Times Jumbo Crossword with an additional set of concise clues is on page 14.